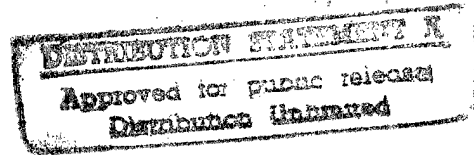


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Near East/South Asia Report

No. 2811

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

29 August 1983

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

No. 2811

CONTENTS

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

Agence France-Presse Presents History of Armenian Cause (AZTAG, 19 Jul 83)	1
Armenian Congress Held in Lausanne (MARMARA, 21 Jul 83)	3
Gurnuzian's Proposals Turkish Journalist Interviews Gurnuzian	
Editorial: 'No Bargaining on Armenian Territorial, Political Rights' (AZTAG, 22 Jul 83)	7

ARAB AFRICA

EGYPT

Achievements of Military Technical College Discussed (Ibrahim Salim Interview; AL-AHRAM, 12 Jul 83)	9
--	---

LIBYA

Arabs, Foreigners Residing in Country Listed (AL-MUNTIJUN, 6 Aug 83)	13
---	----

TUNISIA

Closing Arguments, Sentencing in Islamic Tendency Trial Reported (F. Abid, D. Taha; LE TEMPS, 28 Jul 83)	14
Attorney Discusses Constitutionality of 7 November 1959 Law (Azer Zinelabidine; LE TEMPS, 28 Jul 83)	19

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

ISRAEL

Dan Margalit on U.S. Statements on Settlements (Dan Margalit; HA'ARETZ, 12 Aug 83)	20
Knesset Said Ready To Appoint Doron, Grupper (Bina Barzel, Yisrael Tomer; YEDI'OT AHARONOT, 5 Jul 83) .	23
Satellite Information Center To Be Established (Buqi Na'e; MA'ARIV, 15 Aug 83)	25
Jordan Rift Valley Development Plan Discussed (Aharon Pri'el; MA'ARIV, 15 Aug 83)	26
Standard of Living Forecast Discussed (Shraga Makel; MA'ARIV, 5 Jul 83)	28
Commercial Ties With Hungary To Be Extended (Yitzhaq Dayish; MA'ARIV, 9 Aug 83)	29
Briefs	
Public Against Peace Tactics	30
Israeli-Spanish Relations	30
Immigration Statistics	31
Arms to Chad	31
American-Israeli Airline Clash	31

JORDAN

Chamber of Commerce Report on Economy (Sami Ahmad; AL-DUSTUR, 27 Jun 83)	32
---	----

LEBANON

Franjiyah Discusses McFarlane's Mission, Cheysson Remarks (Sulayman Franjiyah; Ihdin Radio of Free, Unified Lebanon, 10 Aug 83)	37
Major Haddad Address to Lebanese (Sa'd Haddad; Marj 'Uyun Lebanese Voice of Hope, 13 Aug 83)	39
Briefs	
Junblatt Denies Statements	47
Junblatt on Arens Remark	47
Lebanese-Israeli Agreement	47
Withdrawals, Security Vacuum	48

OMAN

New Uses for Solar Energy Examined (TIMES OF OMAN, 4 Aug 83)	49
---	----

Nation's Banking Sector Surveyed (OMAN DAILY OBSERVER, 7 Aug 83)	50
---	----

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Briefs	
Former King To Visit Pakistan	51

BANGLADESH

Ershad Speech at 2 July Thana Inauguration Reported (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 3 Jul 83)	52
Ershad Addresses Rally on International Cooperative Day (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 3 Jul 83)	55
Cabinet Approves Recommendations for Land Reform (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 26 Jul 83)	57
Government Stand on 'Pyramid of Democracy' Explained (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 26 Jul 83)	60
Communications Minister Reports on Regional Meet (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 26 Jul 83)	62
Ershad Talks To Press on Departure for Maldives (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, various dates)	64
Ties To Improve Stand on OIC Leadership Remarks on Constitution	
Minister Holds Press Conference on Import Policy (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 3 Jul 83)	66
Inefficiency Reportedly Causes Loss at Petrobangla (THE NEW NATION, 26 Jul 83)	69

INDIA

Paper Reports Meeting of Indo-U.S. Commission (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 1 Jul 83)	70
Madhya Pradesh Cabinet Reshuffle Reported (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 1 Jul 83)	72
Leader Gives Criteria for Detecting 'Foreigners' (THE HINDU, 1 Jul 83)	73

Chakma Influence a Political Issue in Mizoram (THE STATESMAN, 1 Jul 83)	74
IRAN	
Clandestine Reports Widespread Unrest Throughout Country (Radio Iran, 2 Aug 83)	75
Tehran's Relationship With Israel Explored ('Ali Nurizadeh; AL-DUSTUR, 18 Jul 83)	76
'Hojjatiyyeh' Group Reportedly Subjected To Suppression (Various sources, various dates)	83
Activities Declared Discontinued, Ayatollah Seyyed Jalaaladdin Taheri Interview Khomeyni's Representative Blasts 'Hojjatiyyeh' 'Jojjatiyyeh' Called 'Pro-Shah', Hojjat ol-Eslam Hamidzadeh Interview	
Imam's Representative in Gilan on Causes of Rice Shortage (KEYHAN, 25 Jul 83)	90
Saudi Arabia Blasted for 'Overt Friendship With U.S.' (ETTELA'AT, 1 Aug 83)	93
Musavi Discusses Olympic Games Boycott, Pilgrimage, War With Iraq (ETTELA'AT, 1 Aug 83)	99
Briefs	
Import of Pakistani Bread	102
PAKISTAN	
Damage to Basic Institutions Seen as Martial Law's Worst Effect (Irshad Ahmad Haqqani; JANG, 15 Jul 83)	103
Political Parties Deemed Necessary for Democratic Elections (Editorial; JASARAT, various dates)	105
Call for Ban on Undemocratic Parties Flaw of Nonparty Candidates	
Accountability Demanded for Bangladesh Tragedy (Juma Khan; AMN, 3 Jul 83)	107
Britain Urged To Help Pakistan Rejoin Commonwealth (Editorial; NAWA-I-WAQT, 15 Jul 83)	109

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE PRESENTS HISTORY OF ARMENIAN CAUSE

Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 19 Jul 83 p 8

[Text] [Editor's note] Below, we present an article distributed by AFP from Paris focusing on the origins of the Armenian cause, the genocide and the forced migration perpetrated by Turkey and the modern-day struggle pursuing that cause. It is remarkable and gratifying that the international news agency states without hesitation that the Armenian nation has fallen victim to a genocide perpetrated by Turkey. The last part of the article deals with Armenian parties and new movements, and one must assume that the incompleteness of this section and some incorrect information are due to the narrow framework of the article.

The Armenians, who number almost 7 million around the world, became the victims of the first genocide of modern history, which took place in Turkey in 1915 and in the course of which 1.5 million Armenians were massacred as a consequence of the policy of assimilation adopted by the Ottoman government.

Today, there are 300,000 Armenians living in France, 300,000 in Lebanon, 500,000 in the United States and 100,000 in Turkey. Around 3 million Armenians live in the autonomous republic of Armenia (capital Yerevan), which has been one of the 15 republics comprising the Soviet Union since 1936.

Since the Treaty of Lausanne, which was signed on 24 July 1923 ending hostilities between Turkey and the Western allies and which blotted out the national rights of the Armenian people, the Armenians have been struggling to secure international recognition of their identity and homeland.

According to Armenian nationalists, the Treaty of Lausanne "is a rejection of justice by international standards and complements the genocide of 1915."

The territory demanded by the Armenians as their homeland is a mountainous area which is situated around the common boundaries of Turkey, the Soviet Union and Iran and which is dominated by Mount Ararat.

The Armenians founded one of the first Christian states in history, but their country suffered a tragic and turbulent fate because it lay in the way of Eastern and Western empire builders.

After being overrun by the Romans and the Persians, the Armenians, who allied themselves with the Crusaders, came under the domination of the Arabs, the Turks and the Russians.

At the end of World War I, when the victorious allies were dismembering the Ottoman Empire, the Treaty of Sevres of 1920 envisioned the establishment of an independent Armenian state the boundaries of which would be drawn by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson. However, Turkey and Russia prevented Wilson's plans from being implemented.

Before the emergence of ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] in 1975, the social democratic Dashnak party [Armenian Revolutionary Federation] --which used to be affiliated with the Second Socialist International--and the Hunchak [Social Democratic] Party--whose views are closer to those of Moscow--competed for the support of the Armenian masses, particularly in Lebanon, which was considered by the third-generation grandsons of the survivors of the genocide as the forward base of the Armenian armed struggle for national independence.

ASALA and a second organization, the Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide, are in favor of an armed struggle.

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ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

ARMENIAN CONGRESS HELD IN LAUSANNE

Gurnuzian's Proposals

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 21 Jul 83

[Text] The first session of the meeting named "Armenian congress" met yesterday in Lausanne under the chairmanship of Reverend James Gurnuzian.

Armenians participating in the congress held an "informal" meeting yesterday evening. A banquet was held on the occasion of the opening of the congress.

The real "regular deliberations" of the congress will begin at 10:00 am today. The first two hours of this morning session will be open to journalists. Representatives from all Turkish papers will attend this session.

The congress will last until 24 July, which coincides with the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Lausanne.

The organizer of the congress, James Gurnuzian, bases his proposals on two goals:

- a) the liberation of Armenian lands occupied by Turkey; and
- b) forcing Turkey to pay reparations.

This latter goal has also been given a name: "Araratism". The word originates from Mount Agri in Turkey and the suffix "ism" has been added to the end. The word is inspired by the term "Zionism."

When Gurnuzian petitioned the Swiss government in connection with convening an "Armenian congress", he stressed that the meeting would have a political and pacifist character. This is how the necessary permission was obtained.

Meanwhile, however, the bomb attack at Orly airport has hurt the cause of the congress.

A glance at the news items in the Swiss press reveals that the leftist Armenians in Paris, who call themselves the "Armenian Struggle", strongly support the congress in Lausanne.

The Armenian international congress is primarily a challenge against Turkey. Because Gurnuzian's statement says: "Recognition of the rights of the Armenian

people and the liberation of the lands occupied by Turkey." "All political and diplomatic means", but no armed threats, must be used to attain these goals.

Gurnuzian notes that he chose Lausanne as the site for the congress because it was in the (Ouchy) township of Lausanne that treaties rejecting Armenian rights were signed under the leadership of Ismet Pasha.

Who is Gurnuzian?

James Gurnuzian, a Swiss pastor, says that he is the son of an Armenian who fought against Turkish forces during the "Musa Dag" incidents. His family later immigrated to Switzerland and settled in the Bern region. Gurnuzian was educated in Switzerland. He conducted several tours to study the condition of Armenians living in various countries and he published several papers on Armenian issues. In his writings, Gurnuzian says that Armenians dispersed around the world must unite and must defend their cause unanimously.

If this unity is secured, it will be easier to implement the methods endorsed for attaining the set goals. Gurnuzian attended the Armenian congress held in Paris in 1979. Later, he initiated and organized this "second congress" in Lausanne. Gurnuzian received moral support from Armenian organizations in the United States in order to attain his goal. It was Gurnuzian who sent letters to Armenian organizations and invited them to attend the congress to be held.

Turkish Journalist Interviews Gurnuzian

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 21 Jul 83 pp 1,4

[Text] Altan Oymen, one of the editors of MILLIYET, presents in today's paper an interview with Gurnuzian, which we have translated below:

I had a meeting with Reverend James Gurnuzian who is the organizer of the Armenian congress in Lausanne. The questions and the answers are as follows:

[Question] Mr Gurnuzian, I am one of the editors of MILLIYET. Can you answer my questions?

[Answer] MILLIYET, HURRIYET, CUMHURİYET, GÜNAYDIN, TERCÜMAN... I will invite all the Turkish journalists who are here to a press conference and I will answer their questions there.

[Question] You know the names of all the Turkish papers. Do you read them?

[Answer] Yes, I do.

[Question] Do you know Turkish?

[Answer] I do... I do.

[Question] Have you ever been in Turkey?

[Answer] No, I learned the language from my family.

[Question] But you do not speak Turkish.

[Answer] No, I do not. But our goal is to talk. To talk to everybody...

[Question] Including Turks?

[Answer] Of course including them. Especially with them...

[Question] What do you expect from the Turks?

[Answer] We do not expect much from the Turkish government. We expect something very small: Let them admit the events of 1915.

[Question] And then?

[Answer] Then, of course we want to get along well. We are neighbors. There is the Armenian state near the Kars region...

[Question] Soviet Armenia...

[Answer] Yes. But we also have demands from you.

[Question] What do you demand?

[Answer] We demand some land.

[Question] That is, some of Turkey's territory.

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] How will that happen?

[Answer] By negotiating. By establishing a dialog.

[Question] What do you think about the activities of ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia]?

[Answer] We oppose terrorism.

[Question] Are you opposed to the incident at Orly or to all of ASALA's activities?

[Answer] We oppose all types of terrorist acts. I have always stated that.

[Question] But you stated that ASALA could also attend your congress.

[Answer] On condition that they renounce terrorism.

[Question] Some organizations said that they would not attend the congress. Are they in disagreement with you?

[Answer] We do not consider those invited as leaders of organizations. We view them as Armenian individuals.

During the interview, Gurnuzian was smiling and appeared to be polite. When television crews asked to tape the interview, Gurnuzian tried to appear even more joyful.

When talking about his "territorial demands from Turkey", Gurnuzian added extra emphasis to his words and raised his voice.

After this interview, Gurnuzian gave a banquet for the participants in the congress and members of the press corps. Some of the Armenians who were present showed particular interest toward Turkish journalists and correspondents in Lausanne and asked:

"You are a Turkish journalist, are you not? We would like to ask you something.

"Why does the Turkish government refuse to accept the genocide of 1915?

"Why has this subject not been investigated until now?

"Did not an Armenian genocide take place?"

The Turkish journalists asked them about the massacre at Orly and the murders of Turkish diplomats. The meeting was thus marked with arguments at times.

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EDITORIAL: 'NO BARGAINING ON ARMENIAN TERRITORIAL, POLITICAL RIGHTS'

Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 22 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] One thing must be clear to all our friends, our sole enemy, Turkey, as well as all other sides which prefer to remain "impartial":

The territorial and political rights of the Armenian people are not issues of bargaining, and the Armenian cause cannot and will not be the subject of an auction of words.

Everyone knows--even the enemy who disclaims the genocide knows--that the Armenian cause is the result of a historic crime committed against the Armenian nation in Ottoman Turkey in 1915, the attempt to annihilate the Armenian nation planned and implemented by the Turkish government and the forced uprooting of the Armenian masses from most of their traditional and historic homeland.

The Armenian nation, which is seeking its rights, today continues to survive despite the unprecedented number of victims it has lost, and with it lives--and will continue to live--its undisputably legitimate cause.

The perpetrator of the genocide, the Turkish state, is also present on today's geographical and strategic maps. Any attempts by Turkey to disclaim the genocide are meaningless and in vain because historical facts are irreversible. And there is only one way to rectify the injustice committed: the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Armenian people by the wrongdoer himself and, furthermore, proper reparations.

It must also be clear to everybody that the Armenian people recognize and have endorsed the only correct path to pursue their legitimate rights: struggle against the Turkish government. Because nearly seven decades after the genocide attempt and the seizure of a large portion of Armenia, the Armenian nation remains convinced that modern Turkey is the inheritor of Ottoman Turkey and that only it can rectify the historic mistake. It is with this perspective that the Armenian nation demands justice from the international community and political and other kinds of pressure from Turkey's friends who pose as the leaders of the free world and the protectors of nations' rights.

It is clear--it must be clear--in the light of this principle why the struggle of the Armenian nation is directed solely against the Turkish government. It is with this approach that we understand the attacks solely directed against the representatives of the Turkish government.

Viewing the Armenian struggle outside this context and directing it against non-Turkish targets means taking the wrong approach from the outset and perceiving incorrectly the goals pursued by the Armenian people and the depth of the rights of the Armenian nation.

Giving different colorations to the Armenian struggle and expanding the targets of that struggle to countries and governments other than Turkey is equivalent to degenerating and weakening it, blunting its cutting edge and, finally, taking it away from its roots and changing its character. The Armenian Nuremberg can only be reached via the path opened by Tehlirians and Shiragians and any deviation from that path can only hurt the Armenian cause itself.

Finally, the Armenian nation is aware that its path of struggle is thorny and filled with traps which multiply and become more dangerous as the struggle intensifies. The path of struggle is thorny because the enemy, with all the political and other kinds of facilities accorded to a government, has not spared --and will not spare--any effort to sow new thorns on that path. The path of struggle is filled with traps because our modern world, with its blind political, military, strategic and economic rivalries, can very easily exploit the struggle of a nation pursuing a just cause and, by deviating that struggle from its real purpose, can turn it into a simple tool of the rivalries.

It is with the awareness and deep perception of these facts that the Armenian nation declares that its struggle is not partial toward one or the other current and that it is and it will remain pure like the goals it is pursuing:

The recognition of its legitimate rights;

The reinstatement of those rights;

The reestablishment of a free and independent Armenian state on the historic lands of Armenia.

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ACHIEVEMENTS OF MILITARY TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISCUSSED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 Jul 83 p 6

[Interview with Maj Gen (Engineer) Dr Ibrahim Salim, director of Military Technical College, by Ahmad Fu'ad: "College Dedicates Scholars to Egypt; Military Scientists Invent First Unified IFF Set To Interact With Both Eastern and Western Equipment"]

[Text] The Military Technical College has presented 200 doctoral and 90 masters degrees and dozens of diplomas so far.

What have these scholars offered to the Egyptian armed forces, and how have they developed this science to serve military technology? This was the question we directed to Maj Gen (Engineer) Dr Ibrahim Salim, director of the Military Technical College.

Major General Ibrahim Salim said: "The basic mission of the college is to educate a generation of military scholars capable of keeping up with state-of-the-art technology in all branches of military specialization. Until recently the college had included a number of foreign teaching professors, but it gradually began to replace them with genuine Egyptian expertise and to make use of our citizens. We no longer have a single foreigner.

"Egyptian scientists among our military have proved in all fields their ability to stand up to technical difficulties and problems. Our scientists at the college have invented the first all-world recognition [IFF] device. It is 100 percent Egyptian in invention and manufacture, with participation by an international firm which was welcomed into partnership in manufacturing it on a large scale, after we carried out work assigned to the college. We also endeavored to reduce its size and weight to enable its installation on the most modern aircraft, such as the American F-16 and the French Mirage-2000, and on Crotaie missiles and ground launchers. This device has a story which, as Egyptians and soldiers, we are proud to relate.

Our Countrymen Manufacture the Device

"Following the policy of diversification of arms sources, the armed forces faced the problem of finding a single IFF set capable of detecting aircraft or equipment and whether it is friendly or hostile. It is true that there are

Western sets that operate only in Western arms, and Eastern sets that are restricted to Eastern arms, but a single set to operate on all arms--this is an impossible novelty, according to foreign experts. Then a committee of foreign experts was formed, along with a number of our scientists. The committee came to the conclusion that the use of two sets in each piece of equipment, one Eastern and the other Western, was unavoidable. This was not a practical or reasonable solution. We naturally rejected the idea. The IFF set is essentially an electronic unit which transmits encoded signals to aircraft, ships and equipments in order to learn the identity of the equipment and to deal with it. I took upon myself the mission of inventing such a unified set in cooperation with my colleagues. The miracle occurred: the set was invented and units were manufactured at our factories. This set will be sold to Arab and friendly nations after it is manufactured on a large scale in partnership with an international firm. We have given this set special high priority, since for the first time we have come to have a code unknown to anyone else. Even if it is discovered, it can be changed very easily."

[Question] What else is in the quiver of our military scientists?

[Answer] We have designed and put into effect a surface-to-surface missile that carries a ton of explosives. We have taken the Russian SAM-2 surface-to-air launcher and modified it at the college to enable it to mount a surface-to-surface missile. We actually used these missiles in the glorious October [1973] war. The importance of this modification is that it gives us an increase in range at a time when we do not have any missiles which cover the range which matches our targets. In addition, arms shipments from the Soviet Union stopped during that period, while we were on the threshold of the October war.

We also made many modifications to the Soviet MIG-21 aircraft, to the point where the Soviets themselves introduced these modifications after us. We added new fuel tanks to increase the range of the aircraft, since its short range stood in the way of accomplishing our strategy. Ejection seats were also made for certain Eastern and Western aircraft, and we used the aircraft afterward with incomparable effectiveness. This aircraft is still operating in the armed forces and completely fulfills its role.

155mm Gun Mounted on Armored Vehicle

We also mounted the 155mm gun on an armored vehicle to give it mobility and greater maneuverability, as well as more fire power. This, too, was done before the October war. We also developed some runway bombs, so as to carry out our goals. The college is not just a scientific institute to educate officers; rather, in its specialization it is concerned with serving the military strategy of the armed forces. The latest specialty the college has introduced, and at the same time the most difficult, is that of electronic warfare engineer. This specialty also has a story of which we are proud: when we planned to introduce this field prior to 1973, the Czech and Russian advisers objected, claiming our inability to comprehend this type of advanced technology.

We Dive Into Electronic Warfare

However, we persisted in our position and our plans to dive into this field--people who build pyramids can perform miracles. We divided up the field of electronic warfare and dispatched delegations abroad: one engineer would study signals, another computers, etc. The specialities that were divided up came to 30. Our countrymen finished the studies and returned to gather together and establish the "Electronic Warfare" section, the preparation of which took seven years. The student does not read about the experiment, but he conducts it himself; gathers the materials, compares, analyses, then creates special methods for himself. For example, he studies Eastern and Western equipment and sees the different design systems, but in the end he designs, by himself, that which he deems suitable and appropriate for our goals, plans and capabilities.

[Question] What was achieved for Egypt out of these additions?

[Answer] If we were to ask foreign companies to carry out our requirements and the modifications that we request, it would cost us millions of dollars. In addition, and more important, it would expose our strategy to the threat. These additions and developments are not a simple matter, and their reflections on our armed forces are great and important.

Use of Plastics in Building and Explosives

The scientists of the armed forces are offering us many gifts. We have new research to prevent corrosion and oxidation in weapons and combat equipment, conducted jointly with the Scientific Research Academy. The chemistry and metallurgy sections at the college participate in it. There is also research into explosives with the aim of improving them with the use of new elements such as polymer plastics, since the use of this substance yields a greater amount of power and greater ease of manufacturing. We also have research on building materials, also with the use of plastics instead of cement, since its ability to bear greater loads has been proven, in addition to its ease of manufacturing.

The new technique in the world today is to use plastics in many things. At the college we erected a one meter by one meter roof using plastics by way of an experiment. We are attempting to increase its area in order to subject it to greater pressure to test the extent of its rigidity and load-bearing capability, in order to use it in building.

[Question] If the college has been participating in the development of weapons like these and is inventing various pieces of equipment, why have we not yet seen at least a car of Egyptian design and execution?

[Answer] Designing a car and putting it into production is not a problem in itself; the real problem is in production technology. All of Europe stands together to manufacture an aircraft, and the examples are many. In accordance with this, we find factories in Germany which specialize in engine production, others in Britain to produce a fuselage, a third in France or Italy to produce

the electronic equipment, and so on. Thus, there is definitely integration in the industries. The Mercedes Vehicle company, for example, does not manufacture the odometer; the Bosch Company makes it. We, in fact, do not lack the scientific or technical base—praise God, we have this base—but our basic mission as military scientists is restricted to weapons technology.

[Question] Computers are now the language of the day. What is the participation of the college in this field?

Computers Are the Foundation of Combat Operations

[Answer] The college annually awards the diploma "Operations Research." The college is graduating sessions in this specialty. The college is graduating classes in this basic specialty in operations research. Our countrymen are currently designing a computer for field artillery. As I mentioned, computers are used in the armed forces for many purposes: in selection and distribution, for example, during conscription; in listing those who are left out and those who are wanted for conscription; in war games: the fact is, the objectives of utilization are very many for these computers in the armed forces.

The director of the technical college fervently advocates solar power.

Western Desert Awaits Solar Power [no further information given]

Maj Gen Dr Ibrahim Salim said: The northwestern coast of Egypt at one time was covered with olives, barley and some types of wheat. Some of the Roman wells still exist there, replete with water and everything required to raise it and use it in cultivating the area. According to Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, if we do not start moving out of the narrow agricultural strip, we will face a catastrophe. Therefore, it is necessary to turn toward the desert and search for sources of water. In the western desert there are more than six million feddans which are suitable for cultivation with the use of these fresh water wells, the depth of which ranges from 7 to 30 meters.

The latest task assigned to the college is that the college is considered the principal center for research and development in the armed forces, which brings together a supreme council for research. It meets once every three months; everyone who has an idea or an innovation submits it, and it is discussed during the council. I would not be exaggerating if I said that the college has won the lion's share of this research and these innovations.

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CSO: 4504/494

LIBYA

ARABS, FOREIGNERS RESIDING IN COUNTRY LISTED

Tripoli AL-MUNTIJUN in Arabic 6 Aug 83 p 1

<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Number</u>
Arab Republic of Egypt	183,151	Ireland	1,045
Tunisia	94,268	Czechoslovakia	3,385
Iraq	1,059	Hungary	1,856
Morocco	2,516	Portugal	1,704
Chad	3,069	Algeria	5,220
Korea	17,482	Lebanon	4,237
Thailand	15,325	Jordan	9,150
France	2,945	Ghana	1,073
Italy	16,740	Turkey	52,602
Britain	10,883	India	23,594
Bulgaria	8,832	Malta	1,515
Romania	20,716	Greece	2,319
United States	2,695	Germany	6,015
Syria	25,406	Russia	7,237
Palestine	12,267	Poland	11,391
Sudan	17,539	Canada	1,066
Mauritania	1,143		
Pakistan	19,303		
China	1,257		
Philippines	8,349		
Yugoslavia	14,428		

Source: General Department for Passports and Nationality

CSO: 4504/539

CLOSING ARGUMENTS, SENTENCING IN ISLAMIC TENDENCY TRIAL REPORTED

Tunis LE TEMPS in French 28 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by F. Abid and D. Taha: "Fundamentalists in Criminal Court: Two Acquittals and Sentences Ranging From 2 Years to 6 Months in Prison"]

[Text] The trial of Muslim fundamentalists that began on Wednesday 20 July, yesterday entered its second phase. The 22 defendants were indicted on the following charge: forming an unauthorized association in November 1982, an act set forth and abolished in Art 30 of the decree dated 17 November 1959. The 22 defendants were referred under arrest to the criminal court presided over by Abderrahman Bourghida, and seven of the accused who had fled were sentenced in absentia. Unlike the courtroom at the pre-trial hearing last 20 July, the room was extremely crowded, the majority of those in attendance being women or young girls dressed in "fundamentalist" style. In the palace corridors, and outside, an impressive number of sympathizers were gleaning news from a distance as to what was happening in the proceedings.

How the Proceedings Unfolded

At 0830 the hearing was opened by Presiding Judge Abderrahman Bourghida. Before he had time to sit down, the defendants began to recite the "Fatihah." Nearly everyone in the room, including the judge and the court, joined in with the defendants. After that, the judge called out the name of each defendant.

The floor was then yielded to the public prosecutor for his closing argument. It was very brief, and at first glance gave the impression that the court was flexible vis-a-vis the defendants. The prosecutor expressed surprise that the defendants were not future leaders of the country and did not support the government in its development efforts, stating that the indictment was incontestable and irrefutably confirmed by the evidence, principally by the seizure of several objects and some equipment, by confessions to police and the examining magistrate and by the fact that the defendants had been given fighting names. The public prosecutor said he wished to leave it to the judges to evaluate, according to their own convictions, the facts pointing to the defendants, which he said had no precedent in law.

The presiding judge then took over, to address the attorneys and urge them to follow a certain prescribed order in arguing for the defense, and not to repeat themselves or echo their colleagues. He then yielded the floor to Belgacem Khemais, the gist of whose argument was as follows:

This movement is founded on the constitution, the first article of which sets forth the Tunisian state.

Islam as religion--everyone knows that in Tunisia Islam is a symbol devoid of any substance, since it appears neither in the political life nor the social life of the country. This movement does nothing more than demand that the constitution be enforced, and this is what gives rise to its popularity and makes it impossible to eradicate. In any affair of violence that has Tunisia for its theater, the movement is the first to denounce the fact that the violence emanates from individuals or the state.

What, then, is the necessity for this trial to continue? There have been between 20 and 25 affairs similar to this one throughout the Republic in the space of 2 years. The attorney said he was anxious to affirm that this trial is contrary to the interests of the Tunisian nation and its people.

The idea of flagrante delict has no validity in this matter, since everyone was aware that the movement was still in existence. Moreover, he wished to remind his audience of an AL-SABAH article that appeared in November 1982. It said that the movement was most popular in the university. Its existence involved, as does that of any other student movement, displaying posters proclaiming its ideas among Tunisian colleges. What happened?

The police did not have too far to go; they gathered up all the posters they found at the university. In this case, the posters cannot be attributed to any of the defendants. The police reports state that the accused were arrested in flagrante delict while they were meeting in the Olympic town on the night of 8 January 1983 at 2305, whereas some of the defendants were actually asleep at that hour. The police took everyone to police headquarters. The above-mentioned procedure is illegal, inasmuch as it served to alert the prosecutor and the examining magistrate.

It is a disgrace to proceed with confessions by resorting to torture and it is unfortunate that our civilized state violated human rights. (Here the presiding judge interrupted to ask if he had proof of what he had said.) Mr Khemais then criticized Art 30 of the November 1959 law, stating that the Islamic Tendency Movement had previously formulated a request for authorization to be recognized as a legal movement. That request was denied. Membership in an illegal association was not proven in the public prosecutor's closing argument, so the charge is nonexistent on a material basis. And Mr Khemais added that the movement has decided to separate secondary school pupils from political life, a decision for which they are to be congratulated. So much for the students; as for the union members, how was it wrong for them to meet for discussion, like the members of any other group? Why subject some to trial, and not the others? Their arrest and trial, the attorney continued, violate Art 6 of the constitution, which stipulates that all citizens have the same rights and the same duties, and are equal before the law. There are too many invalid and unconstitutional acts in this affair; hence, the defendants must be acquitted.

Mr Hila: Can the law under which the defendants are being tried be considered valid and along the same lines as the rest of the laws and the constitution? Because if the judge is convinced that the law to be enforced is constitutional in itself, can he, in the absence of a constitutional court, nullify the law?

According to Art 8 of the constitution, which is deemed to be avant-garde in comparison to other constitutions, forming an association is part of the inherent right of every Tunisian citizen, whether or not the present defendants formed such an association. Reading the text of Art 8, it does not stipulate that freedom to hold meetings is granted, but rather that it is guaranteed in accordance with the conditions defined by the law. In any case, the law cannot be unconstitutional and the judge cannot try an individual simply for meeting or creating an association. If that is the way things are, the delivery of a permit is unconstitutional in itself. At present, our state and its people have the capacity to enjoy a constitutional court; inasmuch as none exists, it is impossible for a criminal court judge to enforce the 1959 law.

With regard to the student meetings, it was the state itself that encouraged them, to settle the problems that exist in the college.

Mr Taboubi: He brought up three points: the first concerned Arts 84 and 87, which define the tasks of the examining magistrate; the second point concerned the illegal existence of the movement, which filed a request that was denied by the minister of the interior; the third point concerned the nature of this trial, in which certain persons are on trial, while others who are members of other movements have nothing to worry about. The president of the Republic had issued an order as a result of an historic decision, which was not enforced by the wheels of government; the order decreed that the political grip be relaxed and that there be increased respect and social peace. Mr Taboubi asked for acquittal.

Mr Mohamed Nouri indicated that the preliminary inquiry had no juridical validity; the examining magistrate cannot be replaced, except by another judge. Delegation can only take place in accordance with the prerogatives held by the delegate. Since nothing that is invalid can be accepted, since the accused were tortured, Mr Nouri said, they are asking for acquittal. He read part of the charter and stated that a letter had been sent by one of the defendants to the Human Rights League.

Mr Hichri said that this proceeding is first of all political, which must be an exception aimed at the Islamic Tendency alone, whereas other religious organizations are very active in this country. Mr Hichri said that to support his argument for the defense, he would like to add several exhibits to the record; permission was denied by the judge. He added that certain embassies--mentioning those of the US and France, are behind the activities of those organizations, and asked where the police might be. Mr Hichri added that sentencing the defendants would encourage this kind of movement; they talk about our Berber origins and promote recognition of Israel. He closed by asking for an acquittal.

Mr Ridha El Ajouri and Soualhi picked up Mr Hila's defense argument by referring to Art 8 of the constitution.

At 1050, the session was adjourned by the presiding judge for a half-hour recess. The half hour was taken advantage of by the defendants for the singing of liturgical chants.

The hearing was resumed a half hour later, opening with Mr Ghodbani's argument for the defense. He stated that after their arrest the defendants were more radicalized in their ideas. Like all of his colleagues, Mr Ghodbani denounced the torture to which the accused were subjected and cited the example of the defendant, Chams-Eddine Hamouda, who did not recognize as his own the signature on his interrogator's statement.

Mr Essid said he was surprised by the absence of attorneys during the interrogation and spoke of the unconstitutionality of the decree of 17 November 1959.

Mr Khmira then spoke of the movement as a religious undertaking, rather than an association. Such an undertaking does not need permits.

Mr Khantouchi expressed the hope that he would never again plead before a Tunisian court in a trial like this one. He indicated that the defendants did not in any case intend to attack national security, and asked for a certain equality in the relations between the government and the movements now existing in Tunisia. He stated that judicial power is completely independent and is limited only by the law and the consciences of the judges.

Mr Mamoughli put forward the fact that he had tried in vain to find evidence concerning the charges. "I found," he said, "that at the very most it was a story devoid of any content. It is not normal for organizations that are supposed to be clandestine to hold public meetings around a cafe table in broad daylight." In defending his client (Mamoughli Abdellatif), he stated that there is no evidence that the defendant wanted to take over the UGTT [Tunisian General Federation of Labor]. All there is, he added, is that he is affiliated with that union and has every right to attend meetings and deal with that union's inherent problems. Nor is it evidence that people with common affinities (religious beliefs) get together and hold meetings.

Mr Ezzine spoke next, to declare that the defendants were arrested chiefly because they had contributed to forming the student's charter, a charter that was encouraged and recognized by the government. It is normal, he said, for university students undergoing all the problems we have heard about to have sought to iron out those problems.

The next speaker was Mr Farouk, who stated that he was asking the presiding judge for just one thing: that he be faithful to total enforcement of the legal texts and the constitution. In conclusion, he asked for an acquittal.

Mr Ben Youssef emphasized the contradiction that exists between the police interrogation and the one that took place before the examining magistrate, and noted that the latter invites conviction, while the former seems to be peppered with contradictions. There is not sufficient proof, he said.

Mr Abassi evoked the prime minister's words of a year ago, when he said that there is a brain drain in which the Third World had lost 30,000 people. The phrase, Mr Abassi stated, is tragic in that it summarizes the situation in the Third World that is at the root of the flight of its capabilities. It is thus unnatural to continue to bury our young brains and put them in prison, and Mr Abassi quoted Ibn Khaldoun, who said that man is a political animal, and

throwing a human being in prison is enough to undermine his competence in that field. He then recalled JEUNE AFRIQUE's headline on the occasion of the verdict rendered in 1981 in the Islamic Tendency case. The headline read, "A Scandalous Verdict!".

Attorney Daoudi stated that he must assume his responsibility to international public opinion, but above all to his own conscience. He said that this is a depressing and difficult--but necessary--task.

Rounding out the circle, Mr Fathi Abid asked for acquittal.

The court then withdrew to deliberate for one hour.

The Verdict

Ezzedine Soudani and Jamel Bennour were acquitted.

The following were sentenced to 6 months in prison: Chamseddine Hamouda; Tarek Bekir; Fathi Mohamed; Salah Nasr; Jamel Aoua; Belgacem Charni; Ali Kaidi; Mohamed Khemais; Hedi Brahem; Mohamed Fatnassi; Mongi Maad; Mohamed Hamdi; Najib M'rad; Abdemajid Azzar; Mohamed Lahbib Maalej; Abdelhamid Ben Abdelkarim; Abdellatif Mamoughli; Mohamed Ayachi.

The following were sentenced to 1 year in prison: Ali Chnita and Naou Han-zouli.

The accused who had fled were sentenced in absentia to 2 years' imprisonment: Hechmi Ben Younes; Ali Aouini; Mohamed Bernich; Mohamed Kaloui; Mohamed Behloul; Hafedh Tarki; Tahar Arid; Hamadi Djebali; Salah Ben Nouri; Sadok Chourou; Kamel Abid; Mohamed Rajeb; Mounir Arbi; Abbes Chourou; Hedi Chihi.

The verdict was greeted with much applause by the defendants and their relatives and friends.

8946

CSO: 4519/302

ATTORNEY DISCUSSES CONSTITUTIONALITY OF 7 NOVEMBER 1959 LAW

Tunis LE TEMPS in French 28 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by Attorney Azer Zinelabidine, in Reply to a Question]

[Text] Art 8 of the constitution sanctions the principle of freedom of association and refers to the law in order to define the modalities under which it is to be exercised. And it turns out that the law of 7 November 1959, by making the exercising of this freedom subject to a permit from the minister of the interior, has drained all of the substance from Art 8.

In fact, the 1959 law establishes, to the advantage of the minister of the interior, a discretionary jurisdiction that allows him to refuse to grant the permit, even if the conditions for the existence of an association have been met.

The provision allows the minister to approve the existence of an association or to refuse to approve it. Such a refusal can only be in violation of Art 8, which clearly sanctions the principle according to which freedom of association is the rule and restrictions are the exception.

Practice has confirmed that the minister of the interior has not been granting permits to those who defend political ideas in opposition to his own. In the face of this established fact and lacking a provision sanctioning control over the law's constitutionality by the Tunisian judge, there would be nothing to prevent the judge from failing to enforce, in litigation before him, a law he deems unconstitutional.

This would then be exceptional control, in the absence of a controlling organ.

Control over the constitutionality of the law by the Tunisian judge will be intensified all the more because it will protect for our constitution the place that belongs to it by rights.

8946

CSO: 4519/302

DAN MARGALIT ON U.S. STATEMENTS ON SETTLEMENTS

TA121835 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Aug 83 p 14

[Commentary by Dan Margalit]

[Text] The transition from slow, premediated settlement guided by security and demographic considerations, to violent settlement in the heart of dense Arab concentrations, takes Israel--in the absence of massive Jewish immigration--in the direction of one of two solutions: either the expulsion of a people, which might undermine the legitimacy of a sovereign Jewish entity; or the establishment of a binational state in the spirit of the Hashomer Hatza'ir [the founding movement of MAPAM] and Yehuda Leib Magnes [a Jewish leader preaching a binational state and mutual existence with the Arabs prior to 1948], which would be the end of the independent Zionist belief. This difficult choice is forced on us by the government's policy. It is exacerbated, over and above the limits of time and place, with every additional building springing up in Judaea and Samaria.

This worsening reality, which emerged only with the passage of time, stands at the center of the public debate still going on in Israel, but it is not the only one. For the last 16 years, the big national discussion has been accompanied by an important political aspect, which has undergone a real change in the last few days, necessitating a renewed study: the stand of the U.S. Government toward the settlements.

Twice within 10 days, authorized spokesmen of the United States repeated the stand that it is unreasonable to suggest uprooting the Jewish settlers from the West Bank. They will be able to live there under any rule or arrangement decided upon in the future.

The following Jerusalem reaction was not uniform. Circles close to Prime Minister Menahem Begin reacted moderately. They noted that this is a welcome but expected step in the U.S. stand. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir--perhaps for reasons of internal politics and interparty arguments--hastened to stress that the double U.S. statement heralds Washington's recognition of the new reality, which the Likud Government has succeeded in creating in the administered territories.

The senior source close to Begin was wise enough to understand that an overly happy reaction might force the Reagan administration to back up and stammer. Shamir's happiness might end in sorrow. However, it seems that from a political standpoint it was the foreign minister's statements that correctly reflected what happened; and it is not at all important that the United States claims that there is no change in its known policies, and even has many old quotes to back up its explanation. The deciding factor in U.S. foreign policy is that in cases where statements are followed by prolonged silence, they are erased from the political dictionary; whereas if statements are repeated, they gain a marked momentum. No other country has experienced this more than Israel. Any time the U.S. administration leaned on Israel, it equipped itself with a reservoir of quotes to prove that actually there was no change in its policies. Thus the Arabs have no reason to be calmed now by the U.S. explanation.

The significance of the U.S. announcement cannot be doubted. Washington was angry with Saudi Arabia, which induced it, through one of its senior officials (who was elegantly dismissed) to propose the Reagan plan, and in the end was incapable of bringing Jordan to the negotiating table. Dashed were the hopes orientalists pinned on Yasir 'Arafat to finally agree to the minimum and erase the clauses calling for destruction of Israel from the Palestinian charter--this as a condition for full U.S. recognition of his special status as the only representative of the Palestinians. Now it transpires that 'Arafat is nothing but a small activist, who does not grasp the full meaning of the big moment, and who has missed it for the last few years. 'Arafat preferred the imaginary unity of the PLO--which nevertheless has broken apart now and might even fall from his hands--to a brave visionary step in Anwar al-Sadat's style.

To all this, Washington wanted to signal clearly: Time is working against the Arabs; at least against those Arabs who understand that no arrangement will be reached through war. Time for these people is running out like the sand in an hourglass. Time is running out because the PLO was weakened and defeated in the Lebanon war--and this is the war's main achievement as seen by its initiators. Also, there is no great Arab leadership yet in existence ready to take advantage of the new situation in order to reach a political agreement with Israel, or to expose the Israelis' stubborn rigidity under the Likud leadership.

This does not mean that the Americans have absolved the Israelis from their considerable responsibility for blocking the heart of the political negotiations in the Middle East. In the last few weeks, they have found a surprising ad hoc partner in the personality of their eternal opponent in the Israeli leadership--Ari'el Sharon. In the last couple of weeks, the former defense minister, who still holds on to stands that might undermine the closer U.S.-Israel cooperation, claimed that the collapse of the PLO in the Lebanon war will not be a real asset to Israel's policy unless the Likud government takes additional steps. He thinks that the West Bank Arabs are now ready for serious negotiations; that they are ready to establish a local leadership. He apparently means something like the village leagues, whose status has been weakened under the present leadership of the Military Administration. But even if he imagined an unrealistic Palestinian leadership that would hold negotiations with Israel, there is no doubt that he is not the only one thinking that the time is ripe to open a dialogue.

The Americans have not gone as far as Sharon. They are not running out of time. In declaring that the Jews are in Judaea and Samaria to stay, and that the temporary buildings will become permanent--whatever the political arrangement--they also outlined their list of priorities. In an interview by George Shultz to James Reston of the NEW YORK TIMES, the feeling was expressed that the United States can procrastinate in the Middle East. Its main interests are now focused on what is happening in its backyard, in Latin America.

In bringing up this policy, which is intended to encourage the moderate Arab countries to reevaluate their position toward the chance to conduct real negotiations, the Americans trampled on some plants in the Israeli internal-political garden. The Moderate opposition in Israel based its opposition to the Likud settlement network not only on the severe demographic-democratic-Jewish significance of settlement in Nabulus, in Hebron, and near Janin; it also acclaimed that the United States will be unable to come to terms with the Likud-National Religious Party-Tehiya settlement map. It argued that the buildings and flags now seen on almost every empty hill, will be a source of dispute without a solution--not only with the Judaea and Samaria Arabs, but also with the big and only ally in the West.

This claim was significantly weakened. At least in the foreseeable future, the Likud has succeeded in creating the image of a new reality in the administered territories. And although such a new reality will not perpetuate the annexation the present government is working toward, it might influence any solution involving compromise, assuming this will not be achieved by the sword. Another claim weakened is the estimation that U.S. Jewry will not allow Begin to carry out the Herut policy in Judaea and Samaria. It was again proven that U.S. Jewry takes a critical stand toward Israel only on rare occasions when the main policy of Jerusalem is totally opposed to the Washington political line. The U.S. agreement, for a period that cannot be foreseen because of the insecurity prevailing in the Arab world, to the Israeli settlement momentum, immediately gives it considerable backing from U.S. Jewry.

It is still difficult to assess whether the U.S. step will encourage the Arabs to follow the road of negotiations, and will be a burden to the Likud policy in the end. Right at this moment, it creates problems for Israel's opposition, which has experienced a humiliating failure in the last 2 weeks. Luckily for the opposition, this was not noticed because Israeli attention was focused on the failure of the economy.

CSO: 4400/476

KNESSET SAID READY TO APPOINT DORON, GRUPPER

Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 5 Jul 83 p 4

[Article by Bina Barzel and Yisrael Tomer: "Appointment of Doron Today in Knesset; Grupper-Candidate for Minister of Agriculture"]

[Text] The Knesset will today approve the appointment of Sara Doron to the position of minister without portfolio in the government. This occurred after an understanding was reached yesterday between Prime Minister Benahem Begin and the religious parties, according to which they will support the appointment of Sara Doron in return for concessions by the liberals in religious legislation.

An understanding was also reached with the Liberal Party that Knesset member Pesah Grupper would be the only candidate to the position of Minister of Agriculture. Grupper's candidacy will be presented for approval by the Central Committee of the Liberal Party at the end of the month, at the conclusion of the 30-day mourning period for Simha Ehrlich.

The agreement to support the appointment of Grupper as Minister of Agriculture was reached after a long series of dealings between the Sharir and Moda'i factions.

Knesset Speaker Menahen Savidor rejected the rumors that he too was a candidate for the position of Minister of Agriculture. According to him, these rumors were circulated as part of the "internal wars" with the Liberal Party, where the situation, according to him, "resembles Lebanon politically."

In addition, it now seems that all the factions in the Liberal Party are trying to achieve compatibility among themselves. A proposal to activate the summit of the Liberal Party as the supreme body to be headed by Moda'i is being formulated.

Yesterday rumors were circulating in the Knesset that the religious parties agreed to withdraw their opposition to Sara Doron's candidacy in exchange for a commitment by the Liberals not to block the legislation of "the law for the prevention of Kashrut fraud." This law, which the Alignment opposes, is under consideration in the Knesset Legal Committee headed by a member of the Liberal Party, Eliyahu Qols.

"The Kashrut Law" entrusts the rabbis with the sole jurisdiction to grant hotels or restaurants certification of Kashrut or to cancel them as they see fit.

Yesterday Agudat Israel received a written promise from Prime Minister Menachem Begin that he will make every possible effort to bring about an amendment to the Who Is a Jew Law. It seems that Agudat Israel will demand implementation of this promise soon, when the appointment of Knesset member Grupper comes up for consideration in the Knesset.

Knesset member Dror Zeigerman announced yesterday in a response to this that if indeed there is an agreement with the religious parties on the issue of Who Is a Jew, he will vote against the law and will even leave the coalition.

9944

CSO: 4423/159

SATELLITE INFORMATION CENTER TO BE ESTABLISHED

TA151013 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Aug 83 p 3

[Report by Buqi Na'e]

[Text] A special plan to improve Israel's image in the eyes of non-Jewish Americans will be implemented next year through 120 radio and television stations throughout the United States, by an organization called "Christian for Peace," active in the United States, and the Israeli Institute for Propaganda Research, based in Herzliyya.

As part of this scheme, a communications center will be set up in Herzliyya that will beam via satellite, "positive" material on Israel. After the broadcasts, the listeners or viewers will be able to contact the broadcasting radio station--at the cost of a local telephone call--and receive answers that will be presented to an Israeli personality who will be sitting in the Herzliyya communications studio.

This is one of the actions planned for the upcoming year by the (Harry Cain) Institute for Propaganda Research, located in the Herzliyya memorial building for fallen sons.

The institute's library has some 40 anti-Israeli propaganda film clips produced by Arab elements which were distributed mainly in the United States. The institute holds year-round seminars for students from both Israel and abroad, as well as for IDF soldiers and high school students. At a news conference held at the institute yesterday it was reported that seminars will be held next year for 12th graders from some 100 Dan region schools on anti-Semitic propaganda films. Seminars will also be held for IDF officers.

Dr Barukh Gittelis, who heads that institute, reported that Arab organizations stationed in the United States pay an annual fee of some \$50 million for the production of anti-Israeli films. Currently an anti-Israeli film is being produced in the United States on the massacre in Sabra and Shatila. The Israeli Institute for Research of Propaganda has been designated to counter-balance this anti-Israeli Arab propaganda in the United States.

CSO: 4400/476

JORDAN RIFT VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DISCUSSED

TA150908 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Aug 83 p 9

[Report by Aharon Pri'el]

[Text] The state committee for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley and for the population of that area has suggested that the cabinet establish 35 rural settlements there and settle in them 45,000 people, break 85,000 dunams of land and pump 120 cubic meters of water, while ensuring family incomes up to 700,000 shekels a year.

These are the long-term objectives recommended by the state committee. A budget of \$165 million is required for short- and medium-term development plans for the years 1983 to 1985.

The state commission is headed by Prof Shmu'el Pohoryles, who heads the Joint Agricultural Planning and Development Authority. The committee was appointed last December by Prime Minister Menahem Begin with the aim of drawing up a master plan for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley.

On the committee are also representatives of the Cabinet ministries and the World Zionist Organization.

The committee submitted recommendations in three areas: agriculture, industry and tourism.

In the agricultural sphere, the committee recommends increasing the land allocations to 30 dunams per settler, guaranteeing full production quotas for export crops, and allocation quotas for the production of 20 million liters of milk and 3,000 tons of turkey meat.

In the industrial sphere, the committee recommends transferring to Ma'ale Efrayyim "a leading national plant" around which additional plants and workshops will be established, as well as setting up an industrial zone there.

In the tourism field, the committee recommendations note that it would be advisable to develop seaside resorts as well as spas and vacation sites in the northern part of the Dead Sea, to develop archeological excavations near Jericho and set up two terminals on the Jordan River bridges.

The committee also recommended paving new roads, building rental apartments in Ma'ale Efrayyim and financing the building of swimming pools in every Jordan Rift Valley settlement because of the difficult climactic conditions.

Professor Pohoryles submitted his report to the prime minister late last week.

As part of the short- and medium-term development goals, the committee wishes to increase the Jordan Valley population up to 6,500 people in 3 years and establish by then four additional settlements and two outposts. There are currently 21 permanent settlements there and 6 outposts.

CSO: 4400/476

STANDARD OF LIVING FORECAST DISCUSSED

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jul 83 p 10

[Article by Shraga Makel: "Standard of Living Will Increase by More Than Planned"]

[Text] The standard of living will increase this year by a much higher rate than the original plan of the Ministry of Finance. Private consumption in the economy will increase by 6.5 percent, much more than the treasury planned at the beginning of the year--1.5 percent. The import of products (cars, videos and so on) will increase this year by 15 percent compared with the original plan of a decrease of 4 percent.

These are the updated forecasts prepared by the Ministry of Finance regarding the present fiscal year 1983-84, and they are significantly different than the estimates included in the National Budget--the economic forecast document which was published in January by the government.

The updated forecasts for fiscal year 1983-84 are as follows:

Prices will increase by 117 percent, much more than the original forecast of 90 percent.

In the course of the year the rate of devaluation of the shekel will reach 88 percent instead of 77 percent, which was estimated at the beginning of the year. Hence, throughout the year there will be a real revaluation of the shekel at a rate of 15 percent. [Last two sentences as published.] The average rate of the dollar for the fiscal year is 54.7 shekels instead of 51.4 set at the beginning of the year.

The gross national product will increase this year by 3.5 percent (1.5 percent according to the National Budget).

As a result of these changes in the economic forecast the Ministry of Finance changed the income estimates from taxes for this year, and according to the new estimates, public tax collections will be 8 percent higher than the original forecast--47 billion shekels. The updated income estimate is 632 billion shekels instead of the 585 billion shekels that were planned at the beginning of the year. The new tax on imports will bring in 7 billion dollars to the treasury. The additional increase in taxes is a result of updated forecasts of increases in prices, income and consumption.

COMMERCIAL TIES WITH HUNGARY TO BE EXTENDED

TA091228 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Aug 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Yitzhaq Dayish]

[Text] Israel and Hungary have signed an agreement to open a \$30 million credit line--\$15 million on each side. The agreement will make it possible to increase commerce between the two countries. The agreement was signed between the Bank of Israel and the Central Bank of Hungary after prolonged secret negotiations. The agreement is a far-reaching change in bilateral relations as diplomatic ties were severed following the 6-Day War. In addition to the credit lines, Israeli banks will deposit money in Hungarian banks.

Following these agreements, it is expected that bilateral commercial ties will develop. Following the 6-Day War, commerce between the two countries has been limited and conducted mainly through companies in a "third country." In 1982, Israel exported goods to Hungary worth \$5 million and imported goods worth \$8 million.

The development in bilateral ties occurred about 4 months ago when two representatives of the Central Bank in Hungary visited Israel. They met with Finance Ministry and Bank of Israel representatives and with directors of commercial banks. In those talks they discussed, among other things, the possibility of Israeli deposits in Hungarian banks. Israel also raised proposals to open mutual credit lines in order to develop commerce between the two countries. Constant contacts at various levels have been held since then.

An Israeli delegation went to Budapest about a month ago in which Bank of Israel Director General Yosef Sarig, Bank of Israel Legal Adviser Mikha'el Herzberg, and Mizrahi Bank Director General Aharon Me'ir took part. The delegation was the official guest of the Central Bank of Hungary.

A delegation of Israeli businessmen and industrialists will soon leave for Hungary in order to arrange deals. Bank Hapo'alim Director General Giyora Gazit recently visited Hungary in order to reach practical agreements about the bank deposits.

The main products exported from Israel to Hungary are citrus fruit and its products, textiles, and chemical products. Imports from Hungary include metal and electrical products, chemical products, seeds, and food products.

BRIEFS

PUBLIC AGAINST PEACE TACTICS--Tel Aviv--A majority of Israelis object to the methods employed by the Peace Now Movement in expressing opposition to government policies. Only a minority justifies all Peace Now measures. This was shown by the latest JERUSALEM POST poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute. The survey was held late in July among a representative sample of 1,162 adults. When questioned on Peace Now tactics, 53.8 percent objected, 13.3 percent applauded, while 27.9 percent justified some and objected to other methods, with another 5 percent undecided. A demographic analysis of those firmly opposing Peace Now tactics indicated a preponderance of the 18-22 age group, of partial high school education, the oriental communities, religious and traditionally-minded people, and blue-collar workers, skilled and unskilled. [Mark Segal] [Text] [TA160951 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 83 p 3]

ISRAELI-SPANISH RELATIONS--Yesterday Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with three Spanish officials and talked with them about the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel. The guests expressed their support for promoting the issue and expressed the opinion that it is impossible that Spain will for long be the only country in West Europe which does not maintain relations with Israel. The guests--the president of the Madrid District who is a member of the ruling Socialists Party leadership, the deputy mayor of Madrid and a member of the Madrid Municipal Council--said that the establishment of relations with Israel will enable Spain to play a positive role in the Middle East. They promised to make every effort to influence their government into making a positive decision on this matter. The Spanish officials told Minister Shamir that since the signing of the agreement with Lebanon, Israel's image in Spain has improved. The Spanish public understands it is not Israel which prevents the removal of the foreign forces from Lebanon and also takes a different view of the PLO. The guests will hold a series of meetings with politicians and Histadrut officials, and among other they will meet with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir and Histadrut Secretary General Yeruham Meshel. [Text] [TA121349 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Aug 83 p 1]

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS--Last month, 1,752 immigrants came to Israel. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that 8,888 immigrants have come since the beginning of 1983, and this is 2,000 more than the same period last year. The head of the Jewish agency's immigration department, Refa'el Kotlovitz, points out that the number of immigrants from Western countries has risen. In contrast to this, the ebb in immigration from the Soviet Union has continued, and last month only 41 immigrants came from there, about a quarter of those who leave the Soviet Union. [Text] [TA142025 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 14 Aug 83 TA]

ARMS TO CHAD--"Israel is supplying daily shipments of arms to the forces of Hissene Habre, the president of Chad, via Sudan and Zaire," rails former president and rebel leader Goukoni Oueddi, who is advancing toward the capital under Libyan support. This was stated in an interview appearing in LIBERATION. At the same time Paris is becoming more and more involved in this war of tribal leaders. Paris had already received news of Israel's aid to Habre after Sharon's second visit to Chad, during his term as minister of defense. But massive aid to save Chad from being overtaken by Libya is now being provided by France. French planes every day transport 50 tons of military equipment to N'djamena. The government has admitted sending civilian advisers but has denied sending military advisers. Egyptian and Sudanese Hercules planes also land every day in N/djamena and unload Soviet-made arms. But Qadhdhafi also claims that "there is not a single Libyan soldier in all of Chad," and in an interview in LE MATIN he asks France "not to go crazy sending forces to Chad. This would be a suicidal policy. The Mitterrand regime would be liable to find itself in danger." [Text] [Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 4 Jul 83 p 1] 9944

AMERICAN-ISRAELI AIRLINE CLASH--Civil aviation administrations of the United States have denied El Al the license to fly passengers between Montreal and Miami in American aircraft in a reaction to Israel's not authorizing an American airline to operate flights to Israel. Aviation relations between Israel and the United States have been tense recently, and a few weeks ago bilateral aviation talks were suspended and Israel even threatened to suspend the aviation agreement and demand discussion of a new agreement. AVIATION WEEK writes this week that the step taken against El Al came in response to Israel's refusal to authorize Capitol to operate flights between Israel and Europe. El Al had operated a small Boeing 737 owned by the American firm Nordair which flew El Al passengers from Montreal to Miami. El Al operated this service because it was not worthwhile to fly its jumbo jets to Miami. [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jul 83 p 10] 9944

CSO: 4423/159

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT ON ECONOMY

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Jun 83 p 8

[Article by Sami Ahmad: "In the Annual Report of the Chambers of Commerce Federation: Jordanian Economy continued to Record Growth in Domestic Product and Domestic Production, Development of the Banking System, a Brisk Level of Foreign Trade, and an Increase in Imports"]

[Text] The Council of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce has issued its annual report for 1982.

The report consisted of three sections. The first discussed economic development in Jordan, the second discussed the activities of the federation during the past year, and the third discussed the conferences and seminars in which the federation participated.

The report also included information about the economic publication published by the federation, the permanent exhibits committee, the delegations received by the federation council during the past year, and the final statement of accounts.

President of the Federation

Mr Hamdi al-Tabba', president of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, said that the world economy has undergone a recession over the past 3 years and that the world had not faced a similar recession since 1930. This caused a decline in the incomes of the industrialized countries and a rate of inflation that varied between 6 and 8 percent last year.

The president pointed out that the number of unemployed will rise to 35 million in the first quarter of 1983 unless economic conditions improve.

He explained: "This will have a decided effect on the Third World in which half the work force will be completely unemployed."

He added that the developing countries have suffered more than other countries due to the economic recession. This is because the rate of growth in these countries will move upward very slowly, which will widen the gap among the

developing states themselves and the gap between the developing states and the industrialized states of the world.

Moreover, a large number of the developing states are in debt to many of the banks and special funds. These foreign debts are estimated at around \$500 billion.

The president said that as a result of the drop in the demand for oil, the oil states have not been able to escape the disturbing complications of the world recession. The current account of these states had dropped severely from \$65 billion in 1981 to \$20 billion in 1982.

Development Activity

Concerning development activity in Jordan during 1982, Mr al-Tabba' said: "Last year was marked by the start of implementation of the second 5-year plan. This plan centers around the same development principles that Jordan followed during the previous plan, which are exemplified by adoption of the principle of economic freedom, the strengthening of individual initiative, the creation of an investment climate, and the establishment of incentives that will encourage the private sector to play a full role in the achievement of further development."

He added: "During 1982, the Jordanian economy continued to record growth in both the domestic product and in national production, an increase in diversification of the industrial base, growth in the volume of foreign trade, development of the banking organization, and an increase in government revenues from local sources."

Economic Development

The report pointed to a substantial increase in the size of the gross domestic product, which totaled 1,350.7 million dinars at the market price versus the 1981 value of 1,199.1 million dinars, representing an increase of 151.6 million dinars.

Agricultural Sector

The preliminary figures indicate that the production of the agricultural sector for 1982 stood at 84 million dinars. This was relatively better than in 1981 because of favorable weather conditions, an increase in rainfall, and good rainfall distribution with the resulting positive effect on crops. The production of grain, which depends on unirrigated land, benefited particularly from these conditions.

The Industrial Sector and Mining

The report stated that the industrial sector continued its growth during 1982. The level of production of the major industries as of the end of 1982 reached a record 273.9 million dinars versus 261.5 million dinars as of the end of 1981.

Foreign Trade

The volume of foreign trade (exports plus imports) grew from 1,216.5 million dinars in 1981 to 1,403 million dinars in 1982. The value of imports into the kingdom during 1982 totaled 1,140 million dinars compared to 1,047.5 million dinars in 1981 while the value of exports totaled 185 million dinars in 1982 versus 169 million in 1981. The trade balance deficit for 1982 was thus 955 million dinars compared to 878.5 million dinars in 1981. The value of reexported goods was 78 million dinars in 1982 versus 74 million in 1981. Thus the growth rates of exports, reexported goods, and imports for 1982 were 9.5, 6, and 8.8 percent, respectively, in current dinars.

Tourism Sector

Some 2,034,600 non-Jordanians came to Jordan as tourists during 1982. This total included 1,751,300 Arabs and 283,300 non-Arabs. The 1981 total was 1,488,000 tourists including 1,124,600 Arabs and 363,400 non-Arabs.

Amman Financial Market

The volume of trade on the floor of the Amman financial market during 1982 totaled 128,008,768 dinars compared to 74,643,269 dinars in 1981--an increase of 71.5 percent. The industrial sector was the most active sector followed by the banks, insurance, and the services sector. Some 77 public corporations had their stock traded in the market.

The volume of trade in development bonds and company bonds totaled 1,939,514 dinars for 1982 compared to 2,093,146 dinars during 1981.

Some 11 new brokerage companies were chartered, bringing the total number of such companies operating in the market to 27.

The money supply continued to increase, reaching 787.5 million dinars at the end of 1982 compared to 701.7 million at the end of 1981. Deposits in the commercial bank also increased, reaching a total of 997.9 million dinars at the end of 1982 (excluding deposits of non-residents). This was an increase of 163.8 million dinars over the end of 1981. The bank credit granted by the licensed banks rose from 721.3 million dinars as of the end of 1981 to 887.2 million dinars as of the end of 1982. The private sector's share of this credit was 822.7 million dinars.

Jordan's holdings of gold, foreign currencies, and special drawing rights had a total value of 628.5 million dinars as of the end of 1982. This was some 38.5 million dinars less than the total at the end of 1981.

The Jordanian Central Bank made a number of decisions during 1982 with the aim of regulating banking activity in Jordan. The most important of these decisions were as follows:

--Setting the ceiling for interest rates paid by the licensed banks operating in Jordan on demand deposit accounts, current creditor accounts subject to

2 days' notice, and those subject to 1 week's notice held in Jordanian dinars to 4 percent annually starting on 10 September 1982.

--Withdrawing permission for any licensed bank or licensed financial institution to maintain reserves of foreign currencies abroad exceeding 25 percent of the total liabilities. These include open credit vouchers held by non-resident beneficiaries and term withdrawals that are recorded in foreign currencies and accepted by licensed banks. This went into effect as of 21 October 1982.

--Allowing every licensed bank that invests portions of its assets in any new issues of government development bonds to benefit from a reduction in the cash reserve percentage from 11 percent to 5 percent corresponding to the bank's investment in these issues.

Seminars and Conferences

Next the report discussed the seminars and conferences at the local and Arab levels in which the federation participated. It explained that these conferences were aimed above all at expanding the fields of industry, mining, agriculture, and the opening of Arab markets to local products.

The report said: "Investment in the Arab homeland was the natural place where Arab capital should have been applied through a wide variety of channels within a comprehensive Arab view. The various seminars and meetings in which the federation participated during the past year were aimed at overcoming the obstacles that block the achievement of these goals."

Most of the resolutions of these meetings stressed the necessity of land reclamation, the establishment of agricultural projects, and the provision of the basic infrastructures they need along with the accompanying factories and those that directly serve their purposes.

The report said that one of the most important points focused on by the conferences was the defining of the Arab economy's relationship with the economy of the states that support Israel. The decisions on this matter in most of the conferences represented real pressure on these states, which closed Arab ports and airports to Israeli commerce as well as boycotting Israel and refusing to deal with it.

The report named the most important conferences participated in by the federation as follows:

A conference on the Importance of the Development of Animal Resources to Arab Food Security. The Council of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce made a series of recommendations, including the following key proposals:

The council believes that the worsening of the food gap in the Arab countries demands concentrated efforts to accelerate land reclamation for production and to develop animal resources as the main source of protein to meet the growing needs brought about by the rising population and higher standards of living.

The council believes that the Arab countries must formulate a strategy to head off the anticipated food crisis in the coming years. It emphasizes the importance of animal resources in the Arab's diet and the need to achieve self-sufficiency in this area. The council recommends the following:

--The conducting of a national and regional food survey to determine the population's consciousness of the importance of good nutrition and how to achieve it, to offer different alternatives to the consumer, and to guide the consumer toward paying attention to the ingredients in food rather than its appearance.

--The concentration of every Arab country on the production of animals. This can achieve high productivity in these countries based on climatic conditions and the available resources. Along with this, the Arab countries should practice conservation and attempt to develop the raising of traditional animals such as camels, buffalo, and sheep. The council also recommends that the Arab governments adopt incentive measures to provide feed in suitable quantities to promote and develop animal resources and that they work to establish joint projects between the Arab countries that have abundant pastureland and suitable climatic conditions such as Sudan and Somalia and the countries that have the necessary funds to establish such projects.

--Action to spread and promote the raising of new varieties of domesticated animals such as rabbits, turkeys, and ducks using the intensive breeding method and to encourage the consumption of their high-quality meats as an alternative to mutton.

--The provision of pastures through the use of unirrigated land sown with grains after being planted with improved varieties of grass and the reduction of the dependence on the importation of feeds from abroad by promoting the production of feeds from byproducts available in the countries such as fish and byproducts from the processing of meats, fruit, and dates.

The council also participated in the Conference of the Arab Engineering Industries and offered a series of proposals in this area.

The council also took part in the Conference of Arab Commercial Cooperation and the 56th Session of the Meetings of the Council of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture held in Kuwait.

The council participated in the first meeting of the Oversight Committee established by the First Conference of Arab Businessmen and Investors, the Future Farmers Conference, the Conference on the Development of Arab Exports held in Abu Dhabi, the Conference on Commercial Terminology held in the hall of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Committee on Wage and Prices held at the Ministry of Labor in Amman, and the meetings of the committee formed to study the regulations of brokers and agents in Amman.

Finally, the report published the final statement of account and the federation's general budget. The report also published the shares of the chambers of commerce in the capital of the center and the dues it receives from the chambers of commerce.

LEBANON

FRANJIYAH DISCUSSES MCFARLANE'S MISSION, CHEYSSON REMARKS

NC101003 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0736 GMT 10 Aug 83

[Press conference given by former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah in Ihdin on 9 August--read by announcer]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency: During his visit to the region, McFarlane embarked on a step never carried out before by anyone. He visited Damascus before Saudi Arabia. In your opinion, do you believe that this step could give him a bigger opportunity to attain success?

[Answer] Steps can never provide opportunities. It is the basket he carries that gives opportunities. Empty baskets are one thing and loaded baskets are something else. Shultz said when he came to the region that he brought no gifts with him, as if we were asking him to bring gifts. Shultz came and left with empty baskets.

McFarlane's visit can only be judged from the contents of his basket; in other words, if the contents are aimed at ending the Israeli attacks, he is welcome. But if he has come to bargain over our sacred land and dignity, he will certainly return with an empty basket. I can assess the significance of his visit only when I know the contents of his basket.

[Question] The agreement has not yet been ratified and is still frozen. Would this step, in your opinion, lead to the resumption of the dialogue with fraternal Syria regarding the future relations between the two countries?

[Answer] The agreement has frozen every kind of negotiations with fraternal Syria because the agreement, before it was signed, ignored the historical, political, economic, and family relations between Lebanon and fraternal Syria. I believe that the official relations between Lebanon and fraternal Syria will be restored only when this agreement is rejected by the Chamber of Deputies.

[Question] French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson expressed fear over the possible outbreak of a new civil war in Lebanon. He said that the evil of partition is now casting its shadow over Lebanon. What is your position toward these remarks?

[Answer] The situation in Lebanon today frightens not only Minister Cheysson, but also all those who know the secrets of the situation, and specifically the Lebanese. What frightens us, regrettably, are the acts of sabotage that are engineered by some official Lebanese organs. The al-Bahsas program for example is unequivocal evidence. We watched on television the perpetrators' statements and confessions that brought the engineers to light. In a few days, God willing, the investigation will reveal the perpetrators and motivators of the Mosque massacre in Tripoli. We, I say we, the al-Maradah [Giants] are holding a person who has been entrusted by some official and party organs to commit a massacre in Zgharta. Based on the aforementioned acts, Minister Cheysson's apprehension does not take me by surprise, especially since his country has always been concerned with our issues and with protecting our safety.

[Question] Walid Junblatt said in a statement issued by the National Salvation Front that the front will retaliate for the wave of explosions. Does this mean that the front has moved from the democratic opposition to the military opposition?

[Answer] Can anyone--even a non-Lebanese--endure the acts of sabotage in Lebanon which are being engineered by the enemy and implemented by its agents? I am sure everyone will be of the same opinion as Junblatt. The present situation--if it persists--God forbid, will make every devout Lebanese--whether a member of the National Salvation Front or not--think the same thing as Junblatt to preserve his sacred land.

CSO: 4400/474

LEBANON

MAJOR HADDAD ADDRESS TO LEBANESE

JN131310 Marj 'Uyun Lebanese Voice of Hope in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Address by Major Sa'd Haddad, commander of Free Lebanon, delivered on 13 August 1983--live or recorded]

[Text] Brother Lebanese, it has been some time since I have talked to you. Events are moving rapidly. I feel that it is my duty to talk to you in the hope that I will be able to alert the Lebanese to the dangers surrounding and awaiting them, and that they will be able through their consciousness to save themselves and their homeland--Lebanon.

First, I would like to answer the tendentious propagandas from the radios of Kuwait or Syria, or even some of the radios in Lebanon about the attempt to assassinate Major Haddad. True, this is the dream of our enemies, but the rope of lies is short. This is not the first time they have disseminated such propaganda. First of all, you must know that Major Haddad depends on God and is working for his people and for his homeland. Anyone who depends on God will not be afraid of the devil's actions. Whatever God wills is welcomed.

Even if the enemy succeeded in liquidating Major Haddad, this would not enable the enemy to achieve its objective. They believe that if Major Haddad goes, everything will go. Major Haddad has succeeded in building a national school, which has taught, graduated and applied principles. This school has succeeded so far in saving a large part of Lebanon. God willing, if these principles are applied in the future, they will save the whole of Lebanon. Major Haddad is not just a person, but a political line. Thousands or hundreds of thousands of Lebanese believe in this line even if Major Haddad disappears. They will continue to pursue this line, which has saved them. Others have tried different methods, but they all failed. Thank God, we are faithfully seeking a national objective, which is Lebanon's salvation, without any personal interests. Rest assured that this line will triumph. Whoever pursues this line will achieve the desired objective, God willing.

Yesterday's reports said that the Lebanese resistance was behind the attempt. I would like to assure you that there is not a single Lebanese, whether in Free Lebanon or the occupied Lebanon, or elsewhere, will contemplate such a thing regardless of all temptations and financial enticements. The Syrians and others cannot buy a Lebanese to assassinate Major Haddad. Why? Because

Major Haddad has only worked for the interest of the Lebanese people. Major Haddad is the only person in Lebanon who has returned most of the evacuees to their homes and is hoping to return the rest. Major Haddad has succeeded in sparing a large area of sectarian strife. Not only that, he has also succeeded in achieving harmony among the sects. This is a Lebanese dream. While Lebanese are butchering one another elsewhere, here in Free Lebanon the Lebanese coexist peacefully and love one another and serve together in the same center, and the same trench for the sake of one thing--Lebanon. There are also other reasons, which I do not want to mention. No true Lebanese will accept such a traitorous and treacherous act against Major Haddad or those who backed him.

Therefore, we are safe from any Lebanese. But if the Syrians succeed in this area, we will not blame them. Because as we said earlier, they are the representatives of Satan on earth. This is the character of the Syrians and their allies, whether Libyans or others. The Syrians have no arguments to persuade the Lebanese people to abandon Major Haddad or anyone who works for Lebanon. Their only way is to physically liquidate a person. This is the way they solve their problems. You may be able to liquidate a person physically, but you cannot kill his spirit or ideas.

At any rate, we rely on God. This rumor will only make us more determined to continue the march, especially since we see that Lebanon is in a great danger. We feel that it is the duty of some Lebanese at least to continue to work for the salvation of Lebanon, because Lebanon is a historical legacy which must remain the home of love, beauty, the heavenly religions, and all cultures. Therefore, regardless of the tragedies, a man or several men will rise up in Lebanon to work for the return of Lebanon's historical and sacred image. Because this is God's wish.

While we are talking about Lebanon, I would like to tell you today Lebanon is in great danger. Some people are living in hope and waiting for relief to come from the east or west, south or north. The people are tried, which is why Lebanese have begun to emigrate. This is a terrible thing. Many mistakes have been committed. How can we rescue Lebanon? [Word indistinct] but for some reasons we have lost the chance and placed Lebanon in great danger. Adventure is dangerous. It either may succeed or fail. It seems that the adventure has failed and the ship has sunk. No airport operates in Lebanon, and no civilian life exists in Lebanon. If the obstacle is the presence of the military planes, the mirages and hawkers hunters which are present in the airport, our airport in Free Lebanon is now in quite a good condition. Therefore, there is nothing that prevents the transfer of the hawkers hunters and the mirages to our airport. In the future, and if the danger continues, we hope that our airport will be able to receive civilian planes. We want normal life to return to Beirut, Tripoli, Ba'labakk, Sidon, and everywhere.

We will go back to our main topic. The Lebanese Government has assumed power as a result of the IDF operation in Lebanon. We should not conceal the facts. The government has derived its force from that operation. The government should have used that force to resolve internal problems, which existed in 1975 and afterwards. There are internal problems, and there is opposition to the government. We know that there was consensus on Amin al-Jumayyil, and that

consensus was the result of the closeness of the president's position to Israel's policy and to Israel itself. We should have used that consensus to rescue Lebanon. For some reasons, the United States, France, and Italy have interfered in Lebanon. [Words indistinct] we think we can put Israel and the Arab states in one pocket so that we can secure our economic interests in the Arab states, and at the same time, express our gratitude to Israel for its help. I have repeatedly said that we cannot put two things in one pocket. I have said that we will not take a hostile attitude toward all the Arab states for the sake of one state. But can all the Arab states rescue the homeland or support the government? I say no, because the Arab states have contributed to the defeat of Lebanon and to the destruction of Lebanon. There are many Lebanese in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Even if Lebanon takes a firm stand, there is no danger to the Lebanese who are working in the Arab states because the Arab states need the Lebanese mentality. Almost all the Arab states and the Arab peoples are without brains. There is no danger for the Lebanese in the Arab states. It is regrettable that no one is prepared to listen. As a result of this, we have found ourselves in the present crisis. [words indistinct] Lebanese consensus was supported by Israel. Now we removed that support, and problems began to appear. The Lebanese Government is not able to open the airport.

We do not know what will happen in al-Shuf. The army will go out, the army will not go out. The army will succeed, the army will not succeed. Despite the U.S. training and clothes, the French caps, and the Italian spaghetti, we found that [words indistinct] companies capitulated easily. At any rate, I do not know if we can blame them or not, but maybe the soldiers and officers there looked back to the past and realized that anyone who works with the legitimacy will eventually be subject to anger. The same thing happened with us. This is why they preferred to capitulate without resistance. Maybe they said it is better to do so, because they realized that they have a live example. They might have said that this is Major Haddad and his army; they worked a lot for the sake of the legitimacy and are still accused of collaborating with the enemy. Moreover, until today, soldiers have not gotten paid and cannot afford to send their sons to schools; why? Because their salaries are frozen.

They accuse us of collaborating with the enemy despite the fact that everything this region has done has helped something called Lebanon to survive. At any rate, conversation drifts from one topic to another. We are astonished at how they accuse us of dealing with the enemy. I believe that this was a blessing for Lebanon, and if they want to call it so, then let them do it. If this accusation is a real one, then why it applies to some people and not to everyone, I do not know. Why have they been charging people since 1951? Is there any better than the other? Major Haddad, we love you and your elements because you have sacrificed and worked hard for the sake of Lebanon. All the Lebanese appreciate your work. What does this appreciation mean while we are still wanted for trial? We no longer need appreciation or emotions. We have become fed up with emotions.

This regime, which is from us and for us might go tomorrow, and a Syrian one will come and we will remain wanted with the charge of collaborating with the enemy. You Lebanese people, do you accept this? Do you want this to take place?

I do not know. Have opinions and words died in Lebanon? We must not only lament our fortune and say that Lebanon and the Lebanese people have been lost. We want the regime [words indistinct]. Why is the soldier who was sitting in his house hiding given all kinds of benefits, while the soldier who defended and sacrificed for the sake of Lebanon and the legitimacy, and still carrying out his missions for the sake of the legitimacy and the Lebanese flag, is still incapable of sending his sons to school? Soldiers come to me and ask me: Since the Lebanese president is from us and for us, then why are all these things happening to us? What can I tell them? Can I tell them that you should have worked against the legitimacy and for Ahmad al-Khatib, Libya, and others? Can I tell them that had you done so, then it would have been better for you and you would have all your rights? Can I tell them it is better for you to strike at any institution belonging to the legitimacy? Do you want me to tell them so? I do not know. At any rate, I say if I and all those who cooperate with Major Haddad are wanted by the court, then go ahead and try us--but you must try all persons who have been cooperating with the enemy since 1951. If you do not want to try us, then you must give those people their rights. If you do not want this or that, then stories will begin to be personal; but I do not think that there is anything personal. I do not see any justification to keep people here deprived of their rights. If you want anything from us, you must say it overtly. Do you want us to join a certain party? If you want us to do so, then you must tell us that if you join a certain party you will obtain your rights. If you want us to relinquish a certain thing, you have just to tell us. Say whatever you want. I frankly say that we have no place for emotions. I hope that the situation will improve [words indistinct]. I believe that it is in the favor of the Lebanese regime to win the support of the force in the south [Lebanon] and not to consider it an opposition force, because so far it has many enemies. The Lebanese regime must at least safeguard the identity of southern Lebanon and keep it linked to the legitimacy.

Do not make us recall al-Ma'arri's [Arab poet] saying on why the law applies to us and why it does not apply to others: They described you, and later they ate you, why did they not describe the lion cub. Thus, it is enough. If we are subject to anger [words indistinct] Arab states, then why the Arab states are satisfied with other leaders? [sentence as printed] They will not do anything and no one will ask them where are you?

We go back to Lebanon. We are concerned about Lebanon. Whatever the situation is, we are not working for the sake of material things; we are working out of our beliefs, because there is something which is more sublime, namely, the homeland. Anyone who has no homeland has no prestige. All of a sudden, the Lebanese people will find themselves without a homeland. Today they are talking about partition. They are concerned over partitioning Lebanon. Nothing has remained of Lebanon to be partitioned; this is the problem. If anything remained to be partitioned, then it would be good, but I will tell you frankly that I am afraid that nothing will remain to be partitioned. You partition something existing, but how can you partition something that does not exist? We have put

all our cards in the hands of the Americans. The only thing that remains is that we want Reagan to interfere in order to solve our problem in al-Shuf and in other places. The problem is that they believe that the whole world depends on the Lebanese people. You must know that the United States cares for its interests before anything else. If Lebanon or a hundred Lebanons go to hell, and its interests remained secured, then this is the most important thing.

We, the Lebanese, must know what we want for ourselves. What do we want? Why do we not see what is in our interest and do it. The United States cannot secure our interest. The United States may say: As long as my interest is not harmed, okay, I will help if I can. Do you really believe that the United States is prepared to displease the Arab states for Lebanon's sake? You will be mistaken to believe so. Do not believe Syria's attack on the United States, McFarlane, and Philip Habib. All these are false games. You must know something: Syria has never deviated from the U.S. line. Syria entered Lebanon with the United States' approval, be sure of this. The United States let Syria enter Lebanon in order to win it to its side. The United States let Syria enter Lebanon in order to stay there and annex Lebanon. What is taking place these days? Syria wants to get rid of the Soviet influence. The Syrians have a problem--their hearts are with the United States; secretly they are with the United States, but the Soviets dominate in Syria. When the Russians feel, maybe they already know, that Syria will deviate from the USSR and Communist line and publicly join the U.S. line, then they will act. I think that they have alternatives. They may destroy Hafiz al-Asad and topple the regime in Syria. Hafiz al-Asad is not ignorant. He is aware of this. Therefore, he is smoothly playing his game. Publicly, he attacks the U.S. envoy and others while, secretly, he is very close to the United States, be sure of this. Syria will not leave Lebanon. Furthermore, it will be willing to control more parts of Lebanon if circumstances allow that.

Therefore, your excellencies, the rulers, must become alert. Lebanon is in danger. Do you think that the United States will be able to make miracles? The United States may offer money, it may offer ammunition, it may help in training, it may offer clothes to the soldiers, it may teach the soldiers English--the paratroopers are now speaking English and say "yes" and "no,"--but it will not be able to solve our internal issues. May God help us, we the Lebanese. We are conceited; we believe that the whole world must work for us. We think that we must only rule, show off, have fun, etc.

When Syria entered Lebanon we said that Syria is obliged to save us. Then we said that Israel must come and save us. Then we said that the United States, France, the loving mother, and Italy with its spaghetti must save us. What about you Lebanese? You think that you are something great, that you are the elite chosen by God and that the whole world must serve us [words indistinct]. All we have to do is just show off and attack the land of others. If we do not help ourselves no one will help us. Let us get rid of these illusions. No one cares about Lebanon. No one is concerned over what is taking place in Lebanon.

Don't think that the world is shaking. Don't think that Reagan is unable to sleep at his White House because he is worried about Lebanon. No, he is not worried about Lebanon. Maybe he thinks of a way to win Syria to his side and free it from the Soviet Union's influence. Don't be mistaken--he is not worried about Lebanon. This is the truth and the reality you must understand. Think of our situation. See for yourselves what we need because we alone must find the solution.

We lost many opportunities. Today, every Lebanese must understand that Lebanon is passing through the most difficult and most dangerous stage of its history. If we do not behave well, Lebanon will be lost. We must wake up from our dreams. We must go back to our senses and try to find a Lebanese way [to end our problems]. We must tell the United States: We appreciate your aid, let us think of a solution to our problems. We must not delude ourselves that the United States will tomorrow enter and take part in a sectarian war and enter al-Shuf and kill for us so we can then rule.

We don't admit that we make mistakes. We the Lebanese have never made a mistake; this is what we believe. We always try to blame someone else for what happens. We blame Israel for what is taking place in al-Shuf. We say that Israel must disarm one side and then ask the other side to slaughter the first. If Israel fails to do so then it is to be blamed. Why does Israel keep arms in their hands? When the Lebanese Army failed to protect itself we blamed Israel for that. Must the soldier wait for an order so he can defend himself?

Israel was also blamed for the abduction of the ministers. Now that there is no solution, America is blamed. Do we not make mistakes? No, we never make mistakes. We want the entire world to work for us. We are impeccable and do not make mistakes. Others make mistakes. This is the case, although admitting one's mistake is a virtue. If man does not admit his mistakes, he cannot remedy his actions and follow the correct course. Therefore, we are dutybound to face facts, return to our reality, and see what we can do and search for what we can do for the salvation of Lebanon because history will not have mercy on those who relinquish the future of Lebanon.

Frankly speaking, the future is not very bright. On the contrary, what we can see in the horizon is darkness. Those who care for Lebanon's interest--whether they are rulers or not--should come down from their high positions and work on the ground. We are ready to help whoever wants help. Let us discuss among ourselves what we can do to rescue it if there is still anything that can be rescued. On our part we are ready to help in all fields. To leave our destiny in others' hands is a crime against the homeland and the people. We have to take hold of our destiny with our own hands and decide for ourselves. The solution should be a Lebanese one. We ask the help of anyone who can help us. We will tell anyone who cannot help us not to hamper the salvation march and to let us rescue our homeland.

I hope that the Lebanese will hear my words, go back to their consciences, know that there is danger, and decide how they can avoid this danger before it is too late.

On the domestic level, I want to tell all Free Lebanon inhabitants that any committee or any military or civilian official is strictly forbidden to collect taxes from houses and other places without being provided with a clear written order to do so. When anyone collects taxes from you without carrying a written order, you must be assured that there is some theft going on. Do not pay taxes in this case and report such a person to us. For instance, the partisans of the Free Lebanon Army are paid by us from a fund. Therefore, there is no need to collect taxes from houses and elsewhere and say that these taxes are paid to the partisans and so forth. Take heed of this matter. Those who want taxes to carry out a vital project should apply in writing, giving their proposals. We will then approve, amend, or cancel their request. We do what is in the interest of the people. We are paying funds to the partisans of the Free Lebanon Army to alleviate the burden of the citizen in Free Lebanon. Be careful and do not be shy. If someone asks you to pay, ask for a written order. If an argument arises or force is used, just report that to us and we will take care of the rest.

I also draw your attention and request all those who join the Free Lebanon Army to do so out of conviction and not out of personal gains. They should not think of using their military uniform to intimidate others, collect money from them, and so forth. This is something we shall never accept. One may succeed once in doing so, but he will soon be exposed and the punishment will be severe.

Although I do not want to give names, I regret to say that some of the al-'Ayshiyah people--despite warnings and measures--continue to intimidate people, collect money, and dishonor their fellow citizens. This totally conflicts with our policy. This reflects badly on the township's people now and in the future. People will not say this one person is responsible for such acts. They will blame the al-'Ayshiyah people in general. I hope that [words indistinct] and al-'Ayshiyah will stop these acts for their own sake. Be assured that I can never support an irresponsible act. Do not think that Major Haddad, Israel, or others will protect anyone who attacks or intimidates people. [Words indistinct] one may put up with you for sometime, but you cannot know when he takes revenge. Pressure leads to explosion. If someone from [words indistinct] or al-'Ayshiyah, do not think that I will wage a crusade or sectarian war for the sake of someone who was misbehaving. I hope that this matter will be taken into consideration.

I promise you that once I know of anyone who commits such acts, I will use all my power and authority to exact the severest possible punishment on him. I will never allow anyone to exploit our name in committing such acts. We are exerting efforts so that all people live together in amity, accord, and peace. Anyone who does the opposite will not only be the enemy of his neighbors, but also of Major Haddad and all the Lebanese who believe in Major Haddad's policy. Nobody will have mercy on him whether he is from al-'Ayshiyah or elsewhere. These are the most important points. I do not want to talk longer than that. I hope that all the Lebanese will be aware of the grave situation, that their homeland is in danger, and that some are working for Lebanon [words indistinct] to rescue Lebanon.

Meanwhile, I have to say that if we want to rescue Lebanon we must enjoy some sort of impartiality and self-denial. We must also rise above the level of material and dirty things and decide to sacrifice for Lebanon. The best sacrifice you can offer is that of joining the Free Lebanon Army for the sake of rescuing what can be rescued. We are now working for the rescue of Lebanon. May God help us and all sincere Lebanese to rescue all Lebanon. May you live long and may Free Lebanon live free, sovereign, and independent.

CSO: 4400/474

BRIEFS

JUNBLATT DENIES STATEMENTS--Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], today denied the statements which the Beirut newspaper AL-NAHAR attributed to him and in which he had stated that Lebanon's Druze are ready to infiltrate Israel and organize a Druze resistance against the Israeli entity. In his denial, Junblatt said: I absolutely did not make those remarks and have not made any statement to AL-NAHAR for a long time. AL-NAHAR said that in his statements, Junblatt was responding to criticism leveled against him by Israeli Defense Minister Arens. Junblatt arrived in Paris today for medical checkups of his 20-day-old son. [Text] [JN051833 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Aug 83]

JUNBLATT ON ARENS REMARK--Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, today reacted to Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens' remark that there is a well known Druze personality working against Israel. In a statement published by the Beirut newspaper AL-NAHAR today, Junblatt said that the Lebanese Druze are ready to infiltrate Israel and organize the Druze resistance against the Israeli entity, adding that the Lebanese Druze are prepared to resist the Israelis if the Israeli Druze decided to get rid of Israel and organize an Arab-Druze joint resistance like their forefathers. Junblatt also said that the Israelis are wrong if they think that the withdrawal of the Palestinians from southern Lebanon will guarantee the safety of Galilee. He said that the Israelis should know that the Druze of Hasbayya [southern Lebanon] are capable of threatening the safety of Galilee at any moment. [Text] [JN051124 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Aug 83]

LEBANESE-ISRAELI AGREEMENT--During his meeting with the FRG parliamentary delegation today, Chamber of Deputies speaker Kamil al-As'ad pointed to the legal error which occurred in the Lebanese-Israeli agreement as a result of the condition Israel has introduced to it by stipulating that the Israeli and the Syrian withdrawals must be simultaneous. He said that the implementation of an agreement cannot be made contingent upon a condition that is beyond the control of the contracting parties. In the event the problem becomes complicated, he said, this error must be corrected and the agreement should be implemented irrespective of this crippling condition; should Israel cling to this condition, it would prove that it wishes to disrupt the agreement. [Text] [NC091613 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Aug 83]

WITHDRAWALS, SECURITY VACUUM--Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has asserted the commitment to the statement issued by the cabinet during its open session 2 days ago. The statement rejects the partial withdrawals and emphasizes that the Lebanese Army alone will fill the security vacuum. Al-Wazzan said: A day must come when such a thing as a national conference will be held; however, this must take place at the appropriate time. He affirmed that contacts are underway between the legitimate authority and the various leaders to achieve a concord among all. Regarding the Druze demands, the prime minister said: The government welcomes all that is just. The government wants to deal justly and equitably with everybody and it wants to wrest any feelings of injustice, fear, oppression or coercion from all hearts. [Text] [NC121441 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Aug 83]

CSO: 4400/474

NEW USES FOR SOLAR ENERGY EXAMINED

Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English 4 Aug 83 p 2

[Text]

Solar power is to be used to help ease traffic jams in Oman's Capital Area in a project planned for the new flyovers at Ruwi, Hamriya and Wadi Adai roundabouts.

Traffic will be monitored by closed circuit television on the flyovers, with solar power being used to re-transmit the pictures via three repeater sites, through to Royal Oman Police headquarters at Qurum.

Solarex photovoltaic systems will be used, supplied by local distributor, Waleed Communications, who are also local agents for Teledyne thermoelectric generators and Bergey windpower generators, windpower being used in conjunction with solar power in many cases where, when the sun is not visible, there is wind of adequate strength to operate the wind generator.

"Solar power has a tremendous future in Oman," says Waleed Communications sales manager William Thewes, who last year sold more than RO 40,000 worth of solar equipment, and this year predicts a 20 per cent increase in business.

Top customers in Oman are the Ministry of Defence, the Palace Office and the Royal Oman Police, who all use solar power for telecommunications repeaters, placed along mountainous regions to receive and retransmit signals - the power being used to charge batteries

which then power the equipment.

The Ministry of Defence has five repeaters in Salalah and one in Muscat. The Palace Office has also bought a number of solar power repeaters and uses solar power for a subscriber telephone system.

The Royal Oman Police use Solarex solar power for repeaters, and has also just ordered the Solarex systems to power the microwave links for the flyover closed circuit television system.

The Ministry of Information also uses solar power for television translators. They operate five now, and plan to have 10 more over the next year.

"The military and the government have the need for solar power particularly, as does anyone trying to communicate, the major problem being Oman's mountainous terrain," explained Mr Thewes.

"More people are also choosing solar power because solar panels require very little maintenance because there are no moving parts in a solar array. You just have to brush the panels periodically.

"This is important in a country like Oman where travelling to maintain remote systems is difficult.

"Solar power simply does not require constant attention as would, for example, gas powered generators."

CSO: 4400/466

NATION'S BANKING SECTOR SURVEYED

Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 Aug 83 p 8

[Text]

THE Central Bank of Oman was created by the Banking Law of 1974 to take over the role of the Oman Currency Board (the successor to the Muscat Currency Authority).

The Central Bank of Oman promptly and systematically regulated and realigned the banking operations to cater to the fast growing credit requirements of the country.

It evolved a rational regulatory framework responsive to the needs of the economy and thus creating an environment of the confidence in the financial institutions and banking practice in the Sultanate.

Apart from the application of various monetary instruments for healthy expansion of credit system, the Central Bank of Oman introduced the first Clearing House in the Capital Area in 1975, and the second Clearing House commenced in Salalah in 1977 coinciding with the new currency sub-treasury which began its operations by the National Bank of Oman, as sub-agents for the Central Bank of Oman.

The complex mechanism of the central banking system was ably and tactfully handled by the experts of great repute in the field.

Their expertise in conducting central banking operations has injected new ideas in the task of modernisation of banking and cre-

dit control in the Sultanate of Oman.

The banking sector played an essential role in the process of achievement of planned economic progress of the Sultanate.

The banking sector in Oman comprises:

- the Central Bank of Oman
- three specialised government banks; the Oman Development Bank, the Oman Housing Bank and the Oman Bank for Agriculture and Fisheries
- eight local banks
- fourteen foreign banks.

The base for commercial banking in the country was scanty in the middle of this century.

The financial and trading scope was limited. However, the British Bank of the Middle East was granted concession in 1948 to provide banking service at Muscat.

With the production of oil on commercial scale in 1967 there was a sharp rise in oil exports giving a big boost to the economy which attracted two more British banks i.e., The Chartered Bank and Grindlays Bank to establish their branches in Muscat in 1968 and 1969 respectively.

A number of banks were established in the subsequent years.

There are now in all 25 banks in different categories operating in the Sultanate of Oman, out of which fourteen are foreign banks, eight domestic banks and three specialised banks.

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

FORMER KING TO VISIT PAKISTAN--Quetta, (JANG correspondent)--At the invitation of largest group of the Afghan Mujahidin, Harkat-e-Enqilab-e Islami, and its allied organizations the former king of Afghanistan, Zahir Shah, is expected to visit Pakistan after the al-Adha Feast. It has been learned that General Abdol Wali Khan has already arrived in Afghanistan to lead the Afghan Mujahidin. [Text] [GF151055 Lahore JANG in Urdu 11 Aug 83 p 1]

CSO: 4656/239

ERSHAD SPEECH AT 2 JULY THANA INAUGURATION REPORTED

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 Jul 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] Gabtali (Bogra) July 2:--The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad today said that the development of Rural Bangladesh is a sine qua non for the survival of the nation reports BSS.

Inaugurating the Atpara, Thana in Mymensingh and Gabtali in Bogra the CMLA said it is essentially for this reason that the administrative reorganisation has been made thana based which decentralisation of power and resources up to the village level. Our development efforts reflect the present Government's determination to make the villages self-reliant in all respects he added.

Gen. Ershad said the half of the new national budget has been allocated for the development of the rural areas during the current financial year.

He said the rural areas contribute 80 per cent of our national resources'. We cannot ensure a real development of the country by depriving the bulk of the population of their due share of the national resources'.

Describing the new budget as the poor people budget and rural-oriented one, the CMLA said the main thrust in the current fiscal policy has been laid on the uplift of villages.

Gen. Ershad said one hundred and sixty-six crore Taka has been earmarked for the development of the upgraded thanas to be known now as "Upozilla". Another one hundred and ninety-two crore Taka has been allocated for Food for Works Programme while the agricultural loan will account for eight hundred fifth crore Taka--an all time record he added.

Outlining the measures taken for the development of agriculture he said the target for shallow tubewell has been set at one lakh for the current year while twelve lakh acres more land will be brought under irrigation network raising the total irrigated area to sixty two and half lakh acres. He said with the provisions of increased agricultural output the target of food production this year has been fixed at one hundred and sixty one lakh tona.

The CMLA said the country cannot afford to import food worth eight hundred crore Taka every year. We have to be self-sufficient in food and channelise this fund for our developments.

In this context he referred to the Government decision to increase the procurement price of foodgrains and said the measures will definitely augment the food production.

Turning to the reformative measures being undertaken by the present Government the CMLA said "We will spare no pain to ensure welfare of the people specially those living in the rural areas uncared unfed and unclothed for decades it is our firm conviction that we shall remain true to our words.

He expressed his confidence that a new dimension will be added to the rural life with the completion of upgradation of thanas numbering over 400 by the seventh of November this year.

The CMLA sought active and whole hearted cooperation of the people towards the implementation of the development programmes and said "with your cooperation and support Inshallah we shall achieve our desired goal."

Referring to the objectives behind our liberation war in which lakhs of people had shed their blood he said what the people of this country wanted to achieve was the economic emancipation to achieve this goal we wanted to have decentralisation of power and resources so to say administration. We wanted to put an end to disparity discrimination and exploitation. Our aim was to secure equitable distribution of national resources.

But the CMLA regretted nobody in the past did make any endeavour to achieve these goals. Consequently he pointed out the gap between the rich and the poor had widened and the frustration mounted.

Analysing the history starting from the British colonial rule the CMLA said the then rulers came to this country as merchants and later became masters. Their main objective was to rule through exploitation. They remained aloof from the people In the past he said the people of this country had witnessed the Governments in Delhi Kara, chi Islamabad and in the next phase at Dhaka. But none of us has ever seen self rule through strong and responsible local Government such as Union Parishad Thana Parishad and Zilla Parishad.

Gen. Ershad regretted that many people today speak about politics but they feel shy in speaking about our noble endeavour to bring down the administration at the door step of commonman.

Gen. Ershad reiterated the non-partisan character of the present Government and said our main aim is to ensure that the fruits of independence could be enjoyed by all through the achievement of economic emancipation.

Later, addressing the Government officials at both the upgraded thanas Gen. Ershad reminded them that they are the servants of the people and they must have a service-oriented outlook in their behaviour and approach. He said: "Gone are the days of performing duties sitting in the office. You must go to the field mix with the people identify their problems and give necessary directions for their solution." He also stressed the supreme need of

eliminating corruption from the administration and asked the officials to continue their Jihad against this menacing vice.

The CMLA also spoke of the need for maintaining law and order in the country adding that peaceful atmosphere is a pre-requisite for the success of all development efforts. The people in the village only want two square meals a day and a peaceful sleep at night. If you cannot ensure even this, you cannot justify your existence as Government servants, he added.

Gen. E'shad stressed the need for checking population boom saying that if the population growth continues at the present rate, the very survival of our existence as a nation will be at stake, we must take it in the right earnest and motivate the people to realise the gravity of the problems.

Thousands of people from all walks of life thronged the venue of the meeting both at Atpara and Gabtali braving torrential rains to listen to the CMLA. The huge mass at the meeting places raised full throated slogans when Gn. Ershad read out the "Farman" of the upgradation of thanas. The people also applauded the CMLA as he told them that it was an auspicious day for them because their thanas were being upgraded during the holy month of Ramzan. We should remain grateful to the Almighty Allah for affording us this opportunity. He said, "I am handing over this upgraded thanas to you and it is your responsibility to preserve and promote these vital institutions."

Referring to Gabtali Thana, the CMLA said that it was the village home of late President Ziaur Rahman who had also worked for the development of rural Bangladesh. He said as a mark of respect to the late President, the road running from Gabtali to Bogra town would be metalled.

The Zonal Martial Law Administrator, Zone "A" Major General Abdur Rahman was present at Atpara while the Zonal Martial Law Administrator, Zone "B" Maj. Gen. Abdus Salam was present at Gabtali.

At both the places, Gen. Ershad unveiled the name plaque of the upgraded thanas.

At Gabtali the CMLA also visited the local Command Council office of Mukti-joddha Sangsad and Thana Mahila Kutir Shilpa Training and Production Center, he also saw the charts showing achievements of the "Matir Dak" project. He was informed that the project already proved to be very successful has helped in increasing agricultural production by about four thousand tons in the thana during the year. The CMLA also saw for himself the agricultural loan and fertiliser disbursement register and expressed satisfaction over the progress.

The Atpara Thana having seven unions has an area of 74 square miles with a population of over one lakh.

The Gabtali Thana with 10 unions and a population of about one and a half lakh spreads over an area of 80 square miles.

CSO: 4600/1422

ERSHAD ADDRESSES RALLY ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE DAY

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Saturday called upon the country's cooperators to put in their relentless efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in food to free the people from hunger reports BSS.

Addressing a rally of cooperators at the Shishu Academy auditorium here on the occasion of 61st International Cooperative Day the CMLA said the Government has announced 18-point programme to emancipate the people from poverty hunger deprivation and exploitation.

He said now wanted the cooperation of all to implement this programme to attain food autarky and establish an exploitation-free society. Through our united efforts we want to prove to the world that we are a self-respecting nation he added.

The rally was also addressed by the Minister for Local Government Rural Development Cooperatives and Religious Affairs Mr. Mahbubur Rahman and the President of Bangladesh Jatiyo Samabava Union Mr. Ali Hossain.

The CMLA said there is no alternative cooperative movement and it should have to be effectively utilised for removing disparity between man and man. He asked the cooperators to play their due role to achieve the cherished objective and said they should also work sincerely and honestly to regenerate the movement into an effective and useful one.

Referring to the role of cooperatives in a poor country like Bangladesh Gen. Ershad said on this auspicious occasion of observing the Cooperative Day our slogan should be "freedom from hunger". If we are determined and engage our cooperative efforts we are sure to achieve self-sufficiency in food by producing an additional twenty lakh tons of foodgrains he added.

The CMLA said the Government has been making all-out efforts to develop cooperative movement into an effective instrument for improving the lot of the toiling masses. He urged the cooperators to remain on guard so that the movement could not be used for political purpose or for selfish interest and said if we can keep it free from corruption, it is sure to bring immense benefit for the entire population of the country.

Dwelling in brief on the measures taken by the Government to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country he said we want to ensure its due role in the country's over all economic activities and make it a meaningful vehicle for village oriented development.

Gen. Ershad said the Government had distributed a loan of Taka 57 crore through cooperatives last year and the amount has been increased to Taka 365 crore for the current year. He said a committee has been set up to make report and recommendations on cooperative banks. The banks will be reorganised as per the reports and recommendations of the Committee, he added.

The CMLA referred to the achievements of his Government since it took over the responsibility of running the country and said what we have done during the last fifteen months, others could not do that in twelve years. It is not possible to solve all the problems in such a short period of time, he said adding with the blessings from Allah and cooperation from the people we shall be able to build a prosperous "New Bangladesh."

Gen. Ershad urged the people to plant at least five trees each and said these trees when grow up will not only provide them with fruits and shadow but also help create ecological balance and make the country more green.

He also appealed to the cooperators all over the world to strengthen the fabric of peace by achieving freedom from hunger poverty, diseases and curse of illiteracy.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mahbubur Rahman appealed to the cooperators to convert the cooperative movement for building a truly self-reliant independent and sovereign Bangladesh. He said the cooperators are like soldiers for increasing production in fields and factories.

The Minister said the present Government is a government of reforms. It had recognised the dreams and spirit of the Liberation War and identified the problems of the people. It is also trying hard to solve the problems by taking concrete steps, he added.

At this state the cooperators present at the cooperators present at the rally raised their hands to express their solidarity and support to Gen. Ershad and 18-point programme of the Government to build a happy and prosperous country.

The function was attended by high officials and diplomats.

CSO: 4600/1422

CABINET APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAND REFORM

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Jul 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Council of Ministers has approved some of the recommendations of the Land Reforms Committee and will set up a high-powered committee to materialise the adopted decisions in this regard immediately reports BSS.

The approval came at a meeting of the Council held at Dhaka on Sunday night with the Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad in the chair.

The Committee will also review other recommendations of the Land Reforms Committee and will take effective measures for their implementation.

At present the highest ceiling of ownership of agricultural lands per family is fixed at 100 standard oighas. This will remain unchanged. Those who have less than 60 bighas of lands will not be able to exceed their ownership from now on to more than 60 bighas. From now on protection of ownership of lands through 'Benami' or transfer will be made legally banned.

The peasants who have been working as share-croppers on a land will get five years occupancy as recognised sharer of produces of that land under a specific agreement deed. If the share-cropper continues to abide by the legal conditions of the sharing and if the owner of the land does not want to cultivate that particular piece of land himself--the term of share-cropping can be extended by another five years after mutual agreement following the expiry of the preliminary five years terms. If the inheritors of share-croppers continue to work as cultivators themselves during the interim period of the conditions of the share-cropping they will be considered eligible for succession.

Legally, the produces of the land will be divided on the basis of the "Tebhaga" policy (for ownership 33.3 per cent for labour 33.3 per cent and for supplying inputs 33.3 per cent). If the owner of the land provides all inputs (excepting labour) in that case he will get 68.5 per cent of the total produces. If the share-cropper provides all inputs (excepting labour), in that case the owner will get 33.3 per cent and if the owner of the land equally shares the expenses of inputs (excepting labour) with the share-cropper he (owner) will be given 50 per cent. The prices of different inputs will have to be determined in such a way so that proper assessment on

the partial supply of inputs can be done and the crops produced in the land can be divided proportionately.

A share-cropper cannot be thrown out of the land by the owner if a share-cropper and his family cultivate themselves and if the share-cropper pays due his to the owner. The onus of legal rights of the owner to oust the share-cropper would lie with the owner.

The share-cropper would have the first preference to buy the land at market price if the owner of the share-cropping land desires to sell it. The share-cropper cannot be ousted of his right to till the land as long as the term of share-cropping remains valid and if the share-cropper carries out the work in accordance with the share-cropping conditions and pays dues to the owner in the event the share-cropper fails to buy the land or does not buy it and another person or his family buys.

No share-cropper or owner and share-cropper can have or take more than 15 bighas of land under share cropping conditions either in his personal or family ownership and control. Necessary steps would be taken to ensure that a share-cropper can best utilise the productivity of land for production and he gets the preference to buy such land if owner sells it. Provision of necessary inputs to supplement this purpose will be ensured.

Minimum wage for land labour would be determined with legal support keeping in view the protection of the interest of their own maintenance, production and employment.

The landless peasants and cultivators having comparatively less land will be given settlement facilities under special supervision of the district administration of new lands in char areas available for settlement. A proper process will be determined for the settlement of the land to the landless peasants through duly elected cooperatives in the shar-lands.

The management of jal-mahals and hat and bazars will now onwards be used for the welfare of the local landless peasants and those owning comparatively lesser lands. In this respect the local peasants will be encouraged through different [word indistinct] governments.

The management of land revenue and rights of records after being decentralised will be taken to the level of Upa-zilla and district for maintenance.

For proper land reforms the Land Reforms Commissioner will be given ex-officio membership of the Land Administration Board

For the welfare of the farmers adequate steps will be taken for flood control irrigation and agricultural credit.

In the rural areas it will be ensured that nobody was evicted out of his homestead and for this reason ceiling will be fixed for land for homesteads.

Number of members of a family should be declared clearly.

A high-powered national committee will be formed for implementation of land reforms.

The meeting also approved the proposal to purchase two DC-10 aircraft for Bangladesh Biman. The two aircraft will be purchased on airline to airline basis.

CSO: 4600/1440

GOVERNMENT STAND ON 'PYRAMID OF DEMOCRACY' EXPLAINED

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Jul 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, Mr. Mahbubur Rahman has made it unmistakably clear the present Government does not believe in controlled democracy or democracy of the aristocracy (oligarchy) or democracy of the Parliament and degenerates into parliamentary dictatorship.

Talking to ENA he said on Monday Ershad administration seeks to raise the pyramid of democracy from the grass-root level and that is precisely the reason why the Government is going to initiate the electoral process from the grass-root level. He said in the past we practised "upside down pyramid-style democracy".

Explaining what he meant by pyramid of democracy, Mr. Ma-Mahbubur Rahman stated elections to Union Parishads will be followed by Pourashava and Poura Corporation election. Then there will be Upa-Zilla Parishad and Zilla Parishad elections. All these elections will be complete by March 24-marking the second anniversary of the taking over of the reins of administration by the present Government. He noted with satisfaction that this is for the first time that the Government has decided to make Upa-Zilla Parishads representative bodies, headed by Chairmen directly elected by the people. Previously both Upa-Zilla and Zilla Parishads were commanded, controlled and completely dominated by the Government functionaries. Those who are today shedding crocodile tears for democracy have allowed these institutions to be headed by Government officials during their tenure of office.

Further elaborating the basic concept underlying the pyramid of democracy being erected by the present Government Mr Mahbubur Rahman said after elections to local bodies are held and democratised institutions are well entrenched at the grass-root level, work will begin in full swing for the delimitation of constituencies for election to the national Parliament. He said necessary laws are being framed to hold elections strictly in accordance with the schedule and to facilitate introduction of democracy of the people and for the people instead of restoration of democracy of the privileged class for their aggrandizements and advantages.

No impediment or obstacle in the way of introduction of truly people's rule or attempt at upsetting the election schedule will be tolerated by the people.

Those who will make moves to do so in one pretext or another will be identified and condemned by the people as anti-democratic forces. They will be liable for the consequences, the Minister said.

Suspended Constitution To Be Restored

As has already been made clear by the Chief Martial Law Administrator, the suspended Constitution will be the future Constitution of the country, Mr Mahbubur Rahman said. He further stated this Constitution was authored by Awami League and subsequently amended by both Awami League and BNP. Later people's endorsement for it was received through a referendum in 1977.

The Minister stated the CMLA at one stage wanted to make the Parliament more responsible by giving it wider powers. But certain political elements requested him to keep the matter for the future Parliament to decide and hence the Government is going ahead with its programme to restore a representative Government and a Parliament through an election on the basis of the suspended Constitution. The suspension on the Constitution will be lifted at an appropriate time he said.

'Wise Men from Tower of Babylon'

Mr Mahbubur Rahman said it is interesting to observe our politicians have started adopting resolutions, advancing demands and administering advices on points of Constitution types of Government and terms of holding elections which are contrary to their past political performances. These days 'many wise men are seen desperately trying to demonstrate their political sagacity by showering sermons' like the "wise men from the tower of Babylon" he said.

Explaining the objectives of the present Government Mr. Mahbubur Rahman said it seeks to provide political and economic stability introduce people's democracy and balanced development of all regions and classes of people. The administration thinks these objectives could be achieved only through implementation of the 18-point programme which has already been hailed and accepted by the people as the charter of our national survival, he added.

People Sick of Rasputin

The masses of our people who have brought into being this country want peace, progress and prosperity. They are sick of the past dreadful days of the tyranny of Ivan the Terrible or of Rasputin, the Notorious. They are simple patriotic people who can build a self-reliant and self-respecting nation if they are given honest and dedicated leadership, he observed.

Mr Mahbubur Rahman said the present Government does not suffer from any political prejudice or brief-case or Volkswagon parties or treat of action by fronts alliances round-table conferences and confabulations "Mr Mahbubur Rahman further stated these people will be welladvised "if they suggest something better for the Government to implement for economic emancipation of the people and for making our independence meaningful."

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER REPORTS ON REGIONAL MEET

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] A bridge would be constructed across the river Padma at a cost of 10-million dollars as a part of trans-Asian railway link between Singapore and Istanbul DCMLA and Minister for Communications Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said in Dhaka on Monday, reports BSS.

Bangladesh has been included in the trans-Asian railway link, the DCMLA told newsmen on his return from Colombo after attending a five-nation South Asian region conference of Railway Ministers.

The DCMLA said under the trans-Asian railway link, the missing link from Burma border near Nef river to Dohazari 20 miles from Chittagong and from Dhaka to Goalundo Ghat would be constructed. Bangladesh strongly advocated early construction of the "missing" links, he added.

Held under the aegis of ESCAP, the conference was participated by Railway Ministers and officials of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh: Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The Communication Minister said Bangladesh delegation had rejected the idea of providing interim alternative sea-cum-rail route bypassing Bangladesh in this project. He said that such a measure would create problems of coordination between road and sea operators.

He said that Bangladesh's proposal for determining the most economical methods of railway electrification including the use of natural gas as energy for developing countries has been accepted by the ESCAP.

Admiral Khan said that Bangladesh also suggested that decade of Transport for Asia and Pacific be observed in phases the first phase being dedicated exclusively to the regional development.

Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said the conference adopted various resolutions to promote cooperation and identified ideas and objective for mutual benefits among the railway administrations of Governments of the region.

The recommendation included intensified technical cooperation including the field training upgrading and development of training institutions and standardisation of railway equipment, technical commercial and operational methods, he said.

It also recommended through traffic and ticketing through adjoining countries.

Admiral Khan said that as a member of this ancient and historic region and as a responsible and independent non-aligned country Bangladesh had time and again advocated for mutual exchanges cooperation and collective self-reliance in all fields of economic development.

The DCMLA pointed out that Bangladesh informed the conference about the various efforts taken by the present Government of General Ersahd to improve the quality of life of the people of Bangladesh.

He said the delegation also informed the conference that Bangladesh had adopted a revolutionary approach in its drive to provide the commonman with a better life, facilities and scope for individual and collective progress and prosperity

The present Government has rightly identified the development of transportation to be an integral and vital component of all overall socio-economic development of the country. Transportation development is also a condition for achieving the development objectives in the various sectors of economy, he said.

The conference, he said decided to hold its next meeting in Dhaka sometime in winter.

The DCMLA was received at the airport, among others, by the Acting High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Bangladesh, Mr. N. Wajayaratne and high officials of Bangladesh Navy.

CSO: 4600/1440

ERSHAD TALKS TO PRESS ON DEPARTURE FOR MALDIVES

Ties To Improve

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Tuesday left for Male, the capital of Maldives to begin his "official and goodwill" visit to Maldives. This is his first official visit to an Indian Ocean country.

Talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport prior to his departure, the CMLA hoped that his visit would further strengthen the existing bond of friendship between Bangladesh and Maldives. During his visit to Maldives, the CMLA said, he would exchange views on bilateral relations and on regional and international issues with his host President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom. He observed that there were possibilities or cooperation, particularly in the field of trade and commerce between Male and Dhaka.

In reply to a question the CMLA said that Bangladesh could export jute and machinery to Maldives. He said that he would discuss with President Gayoom about technical cooperation between the two countries.

The CMLA said that Bangladesh had very good relations with Maldives. He said that the Dhaka-Male relations had been growing very steadily since the establishment of diplomatic relations. The two friendly countries, he added, were bound by common religion, history and culture. Both are members of the OIC, he said. He pointed out that the two countries had identical views on most of the regional and international issues. Bangladesh and Maldives had established a bank at Male on joint venture basis, he mentioned. He recalled the visit of the Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom to Bangladesh in March last.

General Ershad said that Bangladesh and Maldives were closely working for South Asian regional cooperation. At least developed countries (LDCs) of the Third World these countries had many shared common perceptions.

The CMLA was seen off at the airport by the members of the Cabinet and high ranking military and civil officials. He was given a guard of honour before boarding the special aircraft of Bangladesh Biman that flew him to Maldives.

Stand on OIC Leadership

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Jul 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Tuesday hinted that Bangladesh would have no objection if the present incumbent Mr. Habib Chatty continues in his present position as the Secretary General of the OIC.

Talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport prior to his departure for Maldives which had already endorsed Bangladesh's candidature for the post of the Secretary General of the OIC the CMLA said that Bangladesh never wanted to have any misunderstanding with any particular country regarding the question of her candidature. He said that Bangladesh always believed in consensus among the OIC member states about the post of the OIC Secretary General.

Replying to a question the CMLA ruled out the possibility of withdrawing the Bangladesh's candidature for the post of the OIC Secretary General. "We feel that our candidature deserves consideration" he said.

The CMLA is accompanied by Foreign Minister Mr. A. R. Shams-ud Doha who is the Bangladesh's candidate for the OIC post.

Remarks on Constitution

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Tuesday declared that the suspended constitution would be restored before the coming general elections. He reiterated his announcement about holding to the general elections.

Talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport prior to his departure for a five-day official visit to Maldives and Sri Lanka the CMLA told a questioner that the general elections could not be held without reviving the constitution. Asked to comment on the form of government the CMLA said that restoration of the suspended constitution meant Presidential system. He, however, added that if the people want parliamentary form of government then the "verdict of the people is supreme."

Asked whether the Martial Law would be withdrawn before the general elections the CMLA said "we shall consider it." He said that he had always kept his promise to the nation and "whatever is good for the nation we will do that," he added.

CSO: 4600/1442

MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON IMPORT POLICY

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 Jul 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Minister for Commerce and Industries Mr. S. M. Shafiul Azam said in Dhaka on Saturday that the new Import Policy for 1983-84 with all its liberal provisions was aimed at ensuring the optimum utilisation of industrial capacity sustaining the economic growth process on a vigorous scale and arranging adequate availability of consumer goods.

Addressing a Press conference at the State Guest House, "Meghna" to explain the salient features of the new Import Policy, he stated that it was for the first time in the entire post-independent period that the Import Policy has been so liberal and free one as in the current financial year (1983-84). The industrial, licencing system has been abolished under the new Import policy and any one can import industrial items with no quantitative restrictions and can open Letters of Credit directly with the banks through LCA form without licences for all items barring only a few he said.

The Press conference was attended by the Additional Secretary Commerce Division, the Secretary Internal Resources Division, the Additional Secretary, Jute Division and other senior officials including the Chief Controller of Imports and exports.

Mr Shafiul Azam felt that the private sector in particular should come forward in time and in a big way right from the beginning of the year to avail themselves fully of the new import facilities. He was quite optimistic that the industrial growth rate in the country would exceed the target of 4.8 per cent for 1983-84 if the liberal facilities of the new Import Policy were fully utilised. He however, stressed that the banking sector should offer ungrudging and unhesitant support right from the beginning of the year by way of making funds available for the implementation of the import programme in a neat and orderly manner.

He pointed out that the new Import Policy had been freed from all bureaucratic control and the introduction of OGL (open general licence) system for both industrial and commercial imports amply reflected the maximum liberalisation of the Import Policy under the present circumstances. He stated that the funds for imports under OGL for both industrial and commercial groups would be coming from XPL (Export Performance Licence) and Wage Earners Scheme (WES).

The commercial imports, the Minister said the list of commercial importable list had been broadened to 48 items this year with the inclusion of 32 more items with the list. This has been done with a view to encouraging the smaller importers in their trade not necessarily for economic operations but primarily because of social consideration. The restriction on bulk purchase on group basis for small importers has been withdrawn and the small importers from all regions can now form groups for bulk purchase, he noted. He stated that the value of licenses for small importers has also been raised from Taka twenty thousand to taka fifty thousand to enable such importers to have adequate returns on their money invested for imports.

He said that adequate provisions had been made under the new Import Policy for the import of essential consumer items including those which were vital for growth process. He named the items like cement milk food coal edible oil pig iron etc. The actual users will also be permitted to import a large number of industrial items like M.S. billet C.I. sheet led in-got etc. In place of the hitherto 'circumtous process' of their exclusive imports by the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.

He said that the provision for the import of secondhand clothings had been kept at Taka 15 crore for 1983-84 as against Taka 13 crore last year. The allocation for the import of secondhand clothing and C.I. sheets would be made on a district-wise basis so that importers spread all over the country could participate in the related import operations.

The Minister stated that a sum of Taka 260 crore had been provided for the import of raw materials by the handloom industry and the commercial banks had been asked to arrange adequate funds for this on the basis of pass-books already issued to the handloom units.

Giving a break-down of import allocation for different sectors he said that the industrial sector would account for 55 per cent of the overall import provision, the fuel sector for 26 per cent and the commercial imports for ten per cent. While the bulk of the commercial imports would be made in the private sector the private sector industrial imports have been envisaged at Taka 1300 crore and that of public sector at Taka 650 crore. The imports under XPL will be sized at Taka 300 crore and the POL (petroleum, oil and lubricants) Taka 928 crore he added.

He stated that the imports under barter in 1983-84 had been envisaged at Taka 170 crore.

Replying to a question, he said that the utilization under the Import Policy would be around Taka 2750 crore in 1982-83 as against the provision of Taka 2910 crore in the related Import Policy. Asked what was the actual decline in import trade in real terms last year after taking into consideration the taka depreciation factor and the movements in the average import unit price index he estimated that there would be a 19 per cent decline in imports in real terms in 1982-83.

Asked further whether demand constraints or resource shortfalls contributed to the fall in import in real terms in 1982-83, the Minister said that the

carried-over stocks of imports were depleted last year leading to the slacks in imports. He however did not agree that demand constraints would pose a problem for the utilisation of import provision in 1983-84.

Reviewing the resources availability position for funding the programme under the Import Policy for 1983-84 he said that the funds would be provided in the following manner like cash resources--Taka 975 crore WES--Taka 1365 crore commodity assistance--Taka 1000 crore and barter--Taka 170 crore.

Answering another question, Mr Shafiul Azam said that the industrial imports under WES had averaged 66 per cent of total imports made under it. The imports of capital machinery and consumer goods under WES stand at four per cent and 30 per cent respectively, he added.

About the withdrawal of restrictions on the import of cars above 1300 CC under the new policy the Minister said that this had been done deliberately. The country is now paradoxically surplus in petrol because of the existing pattern of refining crude oil in Eastern Refineries Limited he said. Moreover the petrol-driven cars above 1300 CC can easily be converted for being run on Compressed Natural Gas as and when necessary he added.

CSO: 4600/1422

INEFFICIENCY REPORTEDLY CAUSES LOSS AT PETROBANGLA

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 26 Jul 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The lack of coordination among the planning, exploration and store divisions of Petrobangla has been causing severe financial loss to the authority.

Despite a huge stock of procured materials the authority has bought a number of items on air freight basis on the plea of emergency. But these materials had not been brought to the site from its central store even after the lapse of a year. Besides, Petrobangla procured the materials which were available in the store. Instances are also there where serviceable materials were lying in different stores of Petrobangla for 10 to 15 years.

The Petrobangla which procured about 1000 pieces of items and spares were not used during the last ten years, says a concerned official. The Petrobangla stores and exploration divisions, however, have no accountability, in this respect. It is learnt that over three thousand items and

spares which are available in the stores are still lying idle. No attempt has so far been made to ascertain the service worthiness of these items.

According to another source, the financial statements of Petro-Bangla mainly relating to the lence to Mr. Saddam Hussain, President of the Republic of Iraq on the death of his mother.

Petrobangla

Contd from page 1

exploration division appears to be unsatisfactory. The accounts of the exploration division of Petrobangla have not been audited since 1976 till today.

It is gathered that the recent development credit agreement of US dollar 23 million for second hydrocarbon project of Petrobangla stipulates that the authority will have to submit the audited financial reports of Petrobangla for the years 1976 to 1979 within July 31, 1983 and for the year 1980 not later than September 30 this year.

Equipment worth over 10 million dollars are now lying idle with Petrobangla stores, according to a competent source. It is alleged that the exploration division is now taking keen interest on procurement of new equipment and goods instead of proper utilization of the procured materials.

On the other hand, the drilling procedure of the Petrobangla came under serious scrutiny as some of its well drillings are now facing difficulties. It has been alleged that Petrobangla is not following the standard drilling procedures as recommended by American Petroleum Institute.

During the last eight years' drilling Petrobangla has been facing cementation problems. The test results of the drillings also appear to be inconclusive. Feni and Muladi oil drillings are two glaring instances in this regard. The faulty drilling procedure is also creating problem at Sitakundu.

CSO: 4600/1441

PAPER REPORTS MEETING OF INDO-U.S. COMMISSION

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, June 30 (PTI)--INDIA and the United States today decided to give a boost to their economic and commercial relations and expand areas of co-operation in scientific technological and cultural fields.

The decision was taken by the Indo-U.S. joint commission which held its fifth meeting here after a gap of four years.

The commission, co-chaired by Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, external affairs minister, and Mr. George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, reviewed the work of the four sub-commissions.

Both sides agreed that the economic and commercial sub-commission was an important instrument in facilitating improved commercial relations "in view of the strong and growing trade ties between the two countries." The sub-mission was directed to "stimulate a substantial expansion of trade, examine areas which offer the utmost promise and identify and overcome impediments on either side."

The co-chairman hoped that an agreement on a convention on the avoidance of double taxation could also be reached in the near future.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Narasimha Rao said that the joint commission had given a great impetus to various aspects of Indo-American collaboration in diverse fields and brought benefits to the people of the two countries. In spite of the fact that the commission could not meet after 1979, activities of co-operation had continued to progress in the intervening periods.

The commission, Mr. Rao said, performed a useful function of co-ordinating on-going programmes of co-operation between the two countries as well as in imparting further impetus to ideas and projects that strengthened Indo-U.S. relations.

The two countries, he said, enjoyed the distinction of being the two largest democracies of the world--"yours the most affluent and ours the most populous." Both nations shared a common commitment to several abiding values including the welfare and dignity of man. Co-operation between the two countries was, therefore, an eminently sensible and beneficial proposition.

The joint commission also reviewed the working of the three other sub-commissions on science and technology, education and culture and agriculture.

The two co-chairmen recalled the impetus given to the activities of the joint commission by the visit of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to the U.S. last year and the initiatives taken for strengthening co-operation in various fields during the discussions with President Reagan.

On Science and technology, the two sides expressed their confidence that there was increasing scope for co-operation. The joint commission recommended that the sub-commission on science and technology should draw on the experiences of the senior scientific panel and focus its resources and efforts on "priority problems of mutual concern and interest."

The joint commission expressed appreciation of the programmes contemplated in the activities of the sub-commission on education and culture. The co-chairmen noted the contribution of the Indo-American fellowship programmes and recommended that the sub-commission should establish an education committee.

They took special note of the cultural festivals to be organised in India next year and in the U.S. in 1985 which would include a series of exhibitions in the two countries planned by the museum committees as a follow-up to the agreement reached during Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the U.S.

They were "encouraged" by the increase in co-operative projects in the field of films and broadcasting and by the progress of the joint project on educational materials.

The joint commission viewed as encouraging the progress of the sub-commission on agriculture, set up only three years ago.

CSO: 4600/1378

MADHYA PRADESH CABINET RESHUFFLE REPORTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 Jul 83 p 1

[Text]

BHOPAL, June 30.

IN a snap reshuffle, the chief minister, Mr. Arjun Singh, today dropped five members of his ministry, promoted three others and inducted six new faces, raising the strength of the ministry to 39.

Those dropped included one cabinet minister, a minister of state and three parliamentary secretaries.

Three more ministers are expected to be sworn in later.

The portfolios of 15 ministers, including seven of cabinet rank, were changed.

Observers believed that the reallocation of portfolios was more significant politically than the reshuffle in which the agriculture minister, Mr. Tejlal Tembhre, and the minister of state for revenue, Mr. Bhavanilal Verma, were dropped along with three parliamentary secretaries — Mr. Mangal Singh Jatav, Mr. Ratnesh Saloman and Mr. Rajendra

Mishra.

Among those affected by the reallocation of portfolios is the deputy chief minister, Mr. S. B. Solanki, who has been divested of finance and assigned agriculture, which was held by Mr. Tembhre.

PTI adds: The minister of state for higher education, Mr. Motilal Vora, was elevated to cabinet rank, the deputy minister for forests, Mr. Bharatsingh, was promoted as minister of state and the parliamentary secretary, Mr. Pratap Singh Baghel, became a deputy minister.

Prominent among those who took oath today was Mr. Mahesh Joshi, a former general secretary of the All-India Youth Congress.

Those who were administered the oath of office and secrecy by the governor, Mr. B. D. Sharma, were Messrs. Hariprasad Sharma, Baapulal Malviya, Mahesh Joshi, Bharat Singh, C. K. Bhanot, M. L. Vora, Jaswant Singh, Shiv Pratap Singh and Pratap Singh.

CSO: 4600/1378

LEADER GIVES CRITERIA FOR DETECTING 'FOREIGNERS'

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Jul 83 p 7

[Text]

GAUHATI, June 30.

Foreigners to be detected in Assam will be of two different categories — Bangladeshis and Nepalis. And their detection will also be on the basis of two different base years — 1971 in respect of Bangladesh nationals and 1976 for Nepalis.

This was reportedly indicated by the State Chief Minister, Mr. Hiteswar Saikia, to a delegation of All Assam Nepali Students Union which submitted a memorandum to him on Tuesday at Dispur.

According to the Chief Minister Nepalis who entered Assam before 1976 cannot be dispersed from the State as per the Indo-Nepal Treaty and he accordingly assured the delegation that its demand for accepting July 30, 1976 as cut off date for the detection of Nepalis would be considered in finalising the modalities of detection of foreigners.

The Assam Government will be going ahead with the appointment of tribunals for the detection of post 1971 foreigners and its decision to set up 20 such tribunals stands notwithstanding the demand for constituencywise appointment as voiced in certain quarters including the Citizens Rights Preservation Committee and the All Assam Minorities

Students Union.

Of course, earlier the Assam Government also planned to appoint one tribunal for each of the 126 Assembly constituencies but later it was found that the idea was not practical as so many retired judges would not be available to man the tribunals.

The All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad spearheading the agitation on the aliens issue has not so far expressed its reaction to the Government decisions, may be because it has been sticking steadfastly to the demand for the dispersal of the 1961-71 group of "foreigners" from Assam.

According to indications the new phase of the movement may be decided upon after the completion of the current series of examinations in the State.

According to another indication elections in the remaining 17 Assembly and seven parliamentary constituencies are not going to be held now. Holding of elections during monsoon is reported to have been considered by the Centre as ill-advised.

The situation in Assam at present is peaceful. But there has not been any slackening of precautionary security measures.

CSO: 4600/1380

CHAKMA INFLUENCE A POLITICAL ISSUE IN MIZORAM

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Jul 83 p 9

[Text]

AIZAWL, June 30.—The infiltration by "Chakma aliens" from the neighbouring Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh has now become a political issue in Mizoram. A move is afoot to send an all-party delegation to Delhi to inform the Centre of the latest situation. The students' Conference of Mizoram has already finalized an "action programme" to press its demand for the deletion from the poll rolls of "Chakma foreigners" who came into Mizoram after 1961.

The elections to the Union Territory Assembly are to be held early in 1984.

The S.C., however, pointed out that 1961 was not fixed as the cut-off year and the date was given so that the first phase of work might be started.

Chakma extremists fighting for regional autonomy in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh under the banner of the Shanti Bahini were said to be behind the recent Chakma influx into Mizoram.

The plan is to form a Chakma area in the Union Territory by outnumbering the original Mizo population.

According to S.C. leaders the Chakmas had been allowed to vote in the elections to the Advi-

sory Council of the Lushai Hills in April 1948 though it was said that none of the non Mizos should enjoy the right to vote in this election.

In the Pawi and Lakher regional elections in 1964 a Chakma was elected and later two of them were elected in 1970.

Two Chakmas were elected to the Mizoram Assembly each time in the elections in 1972, 1978 and 1979 when the support of the Chakmas was quite significant in a number of Assembly constituencies.

The S.C. was also shocked to see that despite the sending of evangelist teachers and missionaries to the Chakma areas to teach them gospel, no Chakma could be converted to Christianity.

CSO: 4600/1379

CLANDESTINE REPORTS WIDESPREAD UNREST THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

GF022000 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Nationalist sources in Iran report that the (?struggle and clashes) continue all over the country, and most nights the sound of gunfire can be heard in Tehran. During recent weeks clashes with the Sarollah patrol units and insulting and condemning the security agents of the regime have continued all over Tehran throughout the daylight hours.

Another report indicates that the water shortage continues to be the biggest public problem and the brave sound of complaints of the people can be heard in all districts of Tehran. Many city districts and especially the poor areas, where the toiling classes live, are permanently without water. People in many districts of Tehran only had a maximum of 3 hours of water during the past 4- hours. The water shortage has turned Tehran's heat into an unbearable killer. The use of air conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, and dishwashers has become very rare in the Islamic Republic. Most parts of Tehran and other cities, especially southern cities such as Bandar-e Lengeh and Bandar 'Abbas with 45-50 degree heat, have no water for cleaning or bathing.

Energy Minister Ghafari-Fard announced in an open session of the Majlis that the government is incapable of supplying sufficient quantities of water and power and requires a minimum of 6 hours to produce these in sufficient quantities.

Water shortage in Qom has created a headache for the population. Sadeq Khalkhali, Qom's deputy in the Majlis, warned of the water problem in Qom today. The shortage of drinking water has created epidemics and the shortage of medicine, the high price of health services, and the fact that hospitals, both private and public, are full of war wounded, have darkened the future of ill people.

According to reports from Tehran the people have had their fill of the regime, and insulting, condemning, and verbally attacking the regime has become ordinary daily events in Tehran's streets. According to the same report, antiregime slogans written on banknotes has forced the Markazi Bank to take a considerable quantity of notes out of circulation.

CSO: 4640/318

IRAN

TEHRAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL EXPLORED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 295, 18 Jul 83 pp 19-21

[Article by Dr 'Ali Nurizadeh: "Liberation of Jerusalem Through Colonel Nimrodi"]

[Text] "Iran cannot do anything effective to liberate Palestine except by way of Iraq. After Iranian forces enter Karbala', we will then be more capable of fighting Israel. I advise the Palestinian leaders to refrain from making visits and moving about and to devote themselves, instead, to mobilizing the people of Palestine and fighting Israel to the death. They can be sure that neither the West nor the East will help them. Faith is the only weapon they have to do battle against Israel."

This is part of the appeal that Khomeyni directed to Muslims on Jerusalem Day.

Those who don't know Khomeyni and the nature of the (foreign) relations of his regime may see in his appeal a call for the liberation of Palestine. But after 4 years of rule by Khomeyni and his aides no one needs proof or evidence of the objectives of this Khomeyni and his bloody regime.

Khomeyni claims the road to the liberation of Jerusalem passes through Baghdad and Karbala'. This is exactly what Israel wants because the occupation of Baghdad and Karbala' by Khomeyni and his troops will pave the way for Israel to occupy Syria and Jordan in order to confront what will be described as the Iranian danger. This is a convention confirmed by the relations between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes. It is a cover for the joint Iranian-Israeli plotting to harm the single "enemy," the Arabs.

This is demonstrated by the fact that Khomeyni, who wants to fight Israel, is not satisfied merely with getting arms and materiel from it to fight Iraq. He also seeks the help of its experts and follows its advice and military plans in the main battle against Iraq and the Arabs.

We previously published numerous documents on the relations of the Tehran regime with Israel.

In this issue we are publishing another collection of important documents to complete the picture of the nature of the agreements and ties between the regime that celebrates Jerusalem Day and those who are occupying Jerusalem.

The hero of these documents is an Israeli colonel named Ya'aqov Nimrodi.

Col Ya'aqov Nimrodi was called Colonel Uzi in Iran before Khomeyni came to power.

After Nimrodi came to Tehran in 1970 to conclude a deal for Uzi machine guns with the Iranian Army, he quickly won a considerable reputation with a majority of the leading personalities, especially in the army. He was also head of the Israeli military mission in Iran for 5 years. He was originally from an Iranian Jewish family that migrated to Palestine in the 1920's. He also spoke Persian fluently and during the years that he spent in Iran he managed to establish relations with high-ranking officers, politicians, merchants, businessmen, and even religious leaders.

Because of his generosity and wit the man gained acceptance in Iranian circles, especially among the generals who liked him not as an "Israeli" but as a professional "soldier" who knew everything!

Three months before the revolution Nimrodi returned to Israel. Approximately two months after Khomeyni came to power, Nimrodi was pensioned off with pay of no more than 300 pounds sterling a month. But a large business was suddenly opened up on Ibn Gvirol Street in Tel Aviv. The company was ostensibly working in the field of water desalinization, but in reality it was simply a branch of Israeli Army intelligence. Israel wished to sell through this company arms to countries that had no relations with Israel or did not want to buy arms from Israel openly.

Colonel Nimrodi also opened up a branch office of his company in London called International Desalination and other branches in Cyprus, Lisbon, and Athens. Through these offices Nimrodi was able to get in touch with his old friends in Iran and let them know that "his company wants to do business with the new regime in Tehran."

At first Nimrodi received no answer, but a few weeks after the Iranian-Iraqi war broke out, Nimrodi found an urgent message in his London office from his old friend in the Iranian Air Force Colonel Baqiri.

Nimrodi was overjoyed to learn that Baqiri was head of the strategic support center in the Air Force and a member of the Iranian military attache staff in London. The two old friends immediately got together in the Inter-continental hotel. Also present at the meeting was an Iranian businessman named Haydari who had been appointed by Ayatollah Beheshti to buy arms from international brokers because the Americans banned the sale of weapons to Iran after the hostages were held in the American embassy in Tehran by a group that called itself the "Khatt ol-Emam Students," ["Followers" of the Imam's Line."]

Today, 3 years after that meeting in the Intercontinental hotel, we received a collection of secret documents that throw more light on Khomeyni's claims and appeal for the liberation of Jerusalem at the time when he was concluding agreements with Israel.

The first document in our possession indicates that a contract was made between Nimrodi's company on Ibn Gvirol Street in Tel Aviv and the Ministry of National Defense of the Islamic Republic of Iran represented by the Deputy Minister of Defense.

Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Article 1 explains the subject of the contract, the kind of arms desired and the price.

Article 2 then makes clear the size of the contract--\$135.832 million. Iran is to pay this sum in full when the arms are delivered. The contract designates the types of arms by the letters F and C.

Article 3 sets forth the manner of payment for the arms: 50 percent when the contract is signed and the remainder is to be deposited in the company's account with Lloyd's Bank in London.

Other articles in the contract relate to legal matters. The Israelis undertake to deliver the arms in no more than 60 days to an Iranian port.

In paragraph 14 of Article 5 there are telex numbers for the Iranian Ministry of Defense and of the Israeli company. Paragraph 15 of the same article contains an explanation of the names of the weapons Iran bought from Israel. The most important are Lance rockets that Khomeyni's forces used in the spring of 1982.

Appendixes to the contract describe the kinds of arms that Israel is selling through Nimrodi's company. But most important of all were the letters exchanged between the Iranian Minister of Defense, the Supreme Defense Council, and the prime minister concerning the contract.

There is also a letter from Nimrodi to Colonel Dehqani, deputy minister of defense at that time and Khomeyni's representative who signed the contract.

In the letter Nimrodi explains to his dear friend Dehqani that sending the arms to Iran via Rotterdam and Antwerp in the Netherlands (!) and Zeebrugge in Belgium is very difficult because of the maritime laws regarding the inspection of ship cargoes. "Therefore, you must send your ships to Rotterdam on the same day that our ships arrive there."

Moreover, the letters exchanged between Khomeyni's high-ranking officers, throw some light on the relations with Israel. We shall content ourselves with summarizing here the contents of each letter. [See photos at the conclusion of the article].

The first letter is from the Minister of Defense and in it he transmits to the Supreme Defense Council letter No 672/5/80 sent him by Colonel Nimrodi's

company after it was translated into Persian. He says in it: "According to reports reaching us from our intelligence, Iraq recently began to study a cease-fire agreement to take effect at the beginning of Muharram. From what we understand from Colonel Nimrodi's letter, we must accept the temporary agreement and use the time."

Signature
Minister of Defense
Top Secret

The second letter from the Supreme Defense Council to the Ministry of Defense informs the latter that it approves the proposed cease-fire agreement to take effect in Muharram if Iraq suggests it.

The third letter from the Minister of Defense to the prime minister says the same thing. The fourth letter is signed by the prime minister who, in turn, is sending it on to the Defense Council for its signature.

The fifth letter is also from the minister of defense to the prime minister and in it he explains why approval of a cease-fire agreement is necessary. He also clearly explains why the Iranian Armed Forces must be given an opportunity to train in the use of the new weapons, especially the Lance rockets that will soon reach Iran with the new weapons from Israel through Colonel Nimrodi. He further notes that the shipments of arms will be in Bandar 'Abbas in a few weeks.

All the documents that have reached AL-DUSTUR from the Iranian Mojahediye Khalq are just a drop in the sea of evidence and proof that condemns the regime of Khomeyni who wants to liberate Jerusalem by the same method that he used to "liberate" the Iranian people.

[Photos of documents follow]

TOP SECRET



L.D.E. INTERNATIONAL DESALINATION EQUIPMENT LTD

The Deputy Minister of National Defence for Logistics,
Ministry of National Defence for Logistics,
Islamic Republic of Iran,
Tehran, Iran.

Ref.No: 672/5/81

18th October, 1981.

Dear Sir,

We refer to our last correspondence with you dated 24th September, 1981, re the shipment/loading problems that were delaying finalisation of this contract. As we discussed with yourself and Mr. Nosratinia on 19th August 1981, this aspect of the operation would present problems that we may not be able to overcome. The IMCO regulations prohibit the open loading of this material in Rotterdam/Antwerp. For obvious reasons we could not load in Zeebrugge as a full inspection of the cargo manifest would be necessary.

This situation now appears to have been resolved. It has however incurred us in a great deal of additional expense and will necessitate us asking you to assist us in this matter.

Primarily what is happening is containerisation of Proforma Invoice number 470/18 and loading and customs clearance effected as metal fabricates. But to ensure that this situation is not compromised, our friends in Rotterdam/Antwerp have made it a precondition that the containers arrive at the docks on the same date as your conference line vessel and are loaded immediately. To this end we have had to give absolute assurances to this effect. It is therefore vital that the simultaneous arrival of goods and vessel be adhered to.

We must also inform you that due to containerisation we have found it necessary to dismantle a little more than was originally anticipated.

This should not pose any major problems on arrival as this pertains only to the chassis/carrier.

We would ask that another meeting be arranged as soon as possible to discuss the matter to the satisfaction of both parties.

With thanks and Best Regards,

We remain,
Yours Sincerely,

Jackob Nimrodi

مورد
مورد
مورد

بیمه سرهنگ

CONTRACT No: 170164

ARTICLE 1

QUALITY OF THE GOODS

6.1 The quality of the goods shall be of current manufacture and in conformity with the latest technical condition of the International Standards

ARTICLE 2

REMARKS OF BUYER

7.2 Should any dispute arise between the buyer and the seller in connection with execution or interpretation of this contract, then both parties shall attempt to resolve such dispute in good faith by direct negotiation

ARTICLE 3

GENERAL

8.1 Terms and conditions set forth in 1. to 17. shall be the basis of the contract by written mutual agreement between the contracting parties.

ARTICLE 4

ASSIGNMENT

9.1 This contract and the rights and obligations shall remain the property of, and be enforceable by, the contracting parties.

CONTRACT No: 170164

ARTICLE 18

SIGNATURE

In witness whereof both parties have caused duly authorized representatives.

For the seller

Represented by

Jackob Nimrodi

Witness this contract of

Seller's representative initials

CONTRACT No: 170164

ARTICLE 14

NOTICES AND REMEDIES

14.1 Any and all notices required to be given under this contract shall be made by letter as follows:

To: Buyer:

DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOGISTICS

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

TEHRAN, IRAN. TELEPHONE: 415708 AND 415709

To seller:

JACKOB NIMRODI

L.D.E. INTERNATIONAL DESALINATION EQUIPMENT LIMITED

40, THE OFFICE STREET,

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL.

TELEPHONE: 341299 AND 341300

14.2 Notices and correspondence concerning this contract between the parties shall be in English language.

ARTICLE 15

CONCLUSION

15.1 This contract consists of 16 Articles on 8 pages.

Appendices numbered from I to VI form an integral part of this contract as per article 1.2/1.3/7.

Appendix I - 30 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

Appendix II - 40 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

Appendix III - 2700 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

Appendix IV - 4000 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

Appendix V - 4000 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

Appendix VI - 40 Units 1500mm Type 1500mm as specified under Pro-Forma 470/18

IRAN

'HOJJATIYYEH' GROUP REPORTEDLY SUBJECTED TO SUPPRESSION

Activities Declared Discontinued

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Aug 83 p 2

[Interview with Ayatollah Seyyed Jalaaleddin Taheri by IRNA; date and place not specified]

[Text] The communique of the Hojjatiyyeh Society is no more than a conspiracy to hide the truth and this gang will be exposed like other groups have.

With the resistance and steadfastness of the people and the Islamic combatants, the Val-Fajr operations will bring us a lasting peace in the region.

Esfahan: The victorious Val-Fajr operations Two and Three demonstrate the preparedness, power and combat capability of the Islamic combatants to carry out any kind of combat operation at any time on any front.

Ayatollah Seyyed Jalaaleddin Taheri, the representative of the imam, Friday imam of Esfahan and a member of the central council of the Friday imams throughout the country, made the above statements and enumerated the fruitful results of the Val-Fajr operations One and Two, mentioning the taking of the strategic heights of the region as well as the victory over the miserable enemy power in a region which the counterrevolutionaries and the agents of the superpowers had spread rumors of its not being under the control of the Islamic Republic.

He added: God willing, with the resistance and steadfastness of the people and the Islamic combatants, the Val-Fajr operations will bring us a lasting peace in the region.

Continuing this interview, the Friday imam of Esfahan explained the importance of the establishment of the assembly of experts

and expressed hope that with the long and blessed life of the imam of the nation, this assembly and future assemblies will not find it necessary to discuss the issue of leadership. He pointed out the special characteristics of such an assembly in implementing the Constitution during the blessed life of the imam of the nation and emphasized: Based on the Constitution, whenever all or a majority of the people choose someone like the imam as their leader, there is no need for the opinion of the assembly of experts.

Ayatollah Taheri referred to the formation of two committees in the assembly of experts and mentioned the ratification of 21 articles and some notes in connection with Article 111 of the Constitution for determining regulations for the assembly and also the 32 articles as well as the notes related to the internal bylaws of the assembly of experts as resulting from the discussions in the 14 sessions of this assembly. He said: In any case, the formation of the assembly of experts with the participation of a number of scholars of religious jurisprudence and the directive message of the imam of the nation, on the whole, changed the hopes of the superpowers and the enemies of Islam of defeating the revolution to despair.

In continuing the interview, the representative of the imam in Esfahan referred to the imam's statements and his warning to those who believe corruption must increase in order for the Imam of the Age to appear and said: Following the statements of the imam of the nation, a communique was issued by the Hojjatiyyeh Society which states: Since the imam of the nation signifies the society, all our activities and assemblies are hereby discontinued. In this way, they want to present themselves as followers of theocratic rule, but these people are not followers of theocratic rule. This in itself is dangerous, because, in essence, they do not accept the revolution, believing that any revolution, uprising or movement before the uprising of his holiness Mehdi is misguided, an innovation and a path to hell. Hence, how could a group holding such beliefs become unquestioning supporters of theocratic rule? Therefore, this communique can be considered nothing more than a conspiracy to hide the truth and this gang, like other groups, will also be exposed. The people are aware and alert and they understand delicate issues very well. They have recognized their nature and we hope that this issue which is a threat to the revolution will be legally eliminated.

He added: Our nation, with the alertness characteristic of a revolutionary nation, will not allow them, God forbid, to strike out against the revolution. The imam's warning was intended precisely to help the people to understand that here is another gang and, God willing, this threat along the path of the revolution will be removed.

The member of the central council of Friday imams of the country referred to his recent meeting with the imam of the nation and, discussing the issue of the Iranian pilgrims to Mecca in this visit, he mentioned that sending all the pilgrims to the house of God, even to live in the holy mosque, the Prophet's mosque and other mosques or in tents, shows the decisive position of the Islamic Republic against the actions of Saudi Arabia to prevent the Iranian pilgrims from living in the mosques and shows the world the enmity of the Saudi regime towards the Islamic revolution and the Muslims who shout slogans of death to America and Israel.

At the end of his interview with the correspondent of the IRNA, the Friday imam of Esfahan praised the self-sacrifice of the martyr-nurturing Muslim people of Esfahan in advancing the goals of the Islamic revolution, referred to the rumors of the enemies of Islam in this area and said: The actions of Esfahan before and after the revolution as well as on the battlefields have caused the enemy to pay constant attention to this city. They fabricate rumors and sometimes, wittingly or unwittingly, these rumors are escalated. However, in our recent visit, the imam of the nation indicated that we should decisively stand against the issues that may provoke problems in this province and expose the hands behind the curtain to the people. The people must also preserve their unity and organization. As a result of this unity, the rumors will become ineffectual.

Khomeyni's Representative Blasts 'Hojjatiyyeh'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Aug 83 p 4

[Text] The founder of the Hojjatiyyeh Society:
"Under such circumstances, religious duty requires the discontinuation of activities. All meetings and programs must be discontinued."

Based on Article 4 of the bylaws of the Hojjatiyyeh Society, the activities of this establishment cannot be discontinued or dissolved until the appearance of the Imam of the Age.

In a communique, the Hojjatiyyeh Society declared the discontinuation of all its meetings, activities and services under the present circumstances.

The complete text of the communique of the Hojjatiyyeh Society is as follows:

In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful

Honorable members of the Hojjatiyyeh-Mahdaviyyeh Society

Servants at the sacred threshold of his holiness, the great Imam of the Age, may we be sacrificed for him.

With greetings and respect, it is announced:

On Tuesday, 12 July of the current year (Fetr holiday), the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution, his holiness, the deputy of the imam, Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, said in his speech: "Another group holds the thesis that sinning should increase so that the Imam of the Age will come. Why will the Imam of the Age come? He will come to eliminate sinning. Should we commit sins so that he will come? Eliminate such deviations. Remove these groupings for the sake of God, if you are Muslims, and for the sake of your country, if you are nationalists. Join this wave that is now moving across the nation and do not move against this wave or your arms and legs will break."

Following these statements, it was rumored that this Society was being addressed. Although we have not found the members of the above-mentioned Society to be examples for the above statement, especially since his holiness had endorsed the religious and cultural services by issuing a permit for the Society to use the tithes for the Imam, and no clear and certain evidence was at hand to indicate his holiness' decision to close down the Society, we did try to question, but direct contact was not possible. However, in investigating the channels possible and through reliable personalities and based on sufficient signals, it became clear that his holiness was addressing this Society. Hence, this issue was reported by those in charge of the Society to the exalted founder and honorable master, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr Halabi, who said: "Under such circumstances, religious duty requires the discontinuation of activities. All meetings and programs must be discontinued."

In any case, as we have clearly stated in writing and orally, based on religious beliefs and duty, we give priority to following the exalted position of the leadership and the source of emulation as well as preserving the unity of the nation, taking the higher good of the country into consideration, preventing misuse by the foreign propaganda organizations and eliminating the intentions of the enemies of Islam and we announce that from this date, all meetings and services of the Society are to be discontinued and no one is permitted to carry on any activity in the name of this Society, express opinions or do anything contrary to its discontinuity; otherwise, he will certainly be responsible before God and the Imam of the Age.

With hope that the sincere efforts of the Society over the last 30 years has pleased God and brought contentment to his holiness, the Imam of the Age, we ask Almighty God for prosperity and pride for the Muslims, especially the Twelver Shi'ites, misery and humility for the infidels and hypocrites, a long life for the imam of the nation and victory for the Islamic combatants.

The charitable Hojjatiyyeh-Mahdaviyyeh Society, 23 July 1983

In conclusion, we draw to the attention of the readers Article 4 of the bylaws of the Hojjatiyyeh Society in regards to the inability of the society to discontinue or dissolve its activities. The text of Article 4 of the bylaws of the charitable Hojjatiyyeh-Mahdaviyyeh Society is as follows: Article 4-- the time period for the continuation of the activities of this charitable, religious, educational and research institution is indefinite and the implementation of its activities and regulations shall not be discontinued or dissolved until the appearance of his holiness, the Ruler of the Age.

'Hojjatiyyeh' Called 'Pro-Shah'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Aug 83 p 2

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hamidzadeh regarding "Hojjatiyyeh" communique by ETTELA'AT; date and place not specified]

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hamidzadeh held an exclusive interview in connection with the recent communique of the Hojjatiyyeh Society concerning the closure of all the offices and meetings as well as the ideological basis, views and actions of this Society at various junctures of the Islamic revolution. In this issue, due to the volume of news, parts of this interview are printed below and the interview will be printed in detail in the next issue.

Concerning the nature of the Hojjatiyyeh Society, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hamidzadeh said in this interview: In my opinion, the Hojjatiyyeh Society is like the Khavarej during the time of the Prince of the Faithful hidden under a deceptive robe. It was under this deceptive robe that the sword of Ebn-e Moljam was unsheathed and struck the head of the holy imam. During the revolution, since 5 June 1963 and later, no one has seen this organization on the line of the imam, but continuously they have

been in opposition, shown enmity and their behavior has gone against the revolution and the imam's line.

Perhaps our people have not forgotten the dealings of these people with the imam and the clergy of the imam's line, as Wahabis, and outside the bounds of theocratic rule. Perhaps the young searching brothers and sisters have not forgotten that under the circumstances, when the brave children of the Islamic nation were in the dungeons of the shah's regime and fighting vile U.S. imperialism, these people were concerned with one branch of this group under the pretext of fighting Bahaism. Of course, the opportunity arose and they then began another chapter under the pretext of fighting Wahabism. Both of these actions deviated from the general revolutionary course led by Ruhollah.

Discussing some of the methods in the dealings and positions of the Society in regards to those in exile and those who fought the hated past regime, he said: The Society believed that they were trying to create disturbances in the country and the world had one Shi'ite king, who was the Pahlavi [king], and they were trying to weaken the regime and eliminate the Shi'ite base in the world.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hamidzadeh said in another part of this interview: At one time they declared that they were endorsed by the imam in any shape or form, and another time, they announced that they had no activities at all and no organization. Well, if you have no organization, what is it that you are declaring today that you are going to close down following the clear statements of the imam? You used to say that you have no activities. You used to say that you were absorbed in the revolution today and serve the revolution wherever you are. There are contradictions in the recent communique of these gentlemen. They point to the statements of the imam that there is "another group whose thesis is to let sinning increase so that the Imam of the Age will come. Well, why will the Imam of the Age come?" Well, who are the individuals and the group which hold this thesis? The fact that they wrote in the communique that "some said" is foolishness. It is clear that you are being addressed. Enough is enough. Let go of these deceptions that you have created among the young generation. Then they continue with: "We declare that the Society should close down and discontinue its activities." In the end, they add: "With hope that the sincere efforts of the Society over the last 30 years has pleased God and brought contentment to his holiness, the Imam of the Age." Well, first of all, this is an insult to the imam because, on the one hand, they say that since the imam has said so, they will close down and, on the other hand, they say that these activities should satisfy God and the Imam of the Age. Hence, they are placing the imam in a position against actions which were to please God and the Imam of the Age. Is this not deception? I ask the nation of

the Hezbollah to ask in connection with this recent communique of the Society: "Do you want to prepare the grounds for giving swords to the Ebn-e Moljavis with such heinous and pseudo-pious behavior?"

He also pointed out: In general, the Hojjatiyyeh Society is a reactionary movement which deviates from the direct path of progressive and revolutionary Islam. Most of them did not emulate the imam and even today, some of them lie and say they emulate the imam. Our nation, as it has stood against any sort of deviant movement, will also stand against this deviant movement, which, in my opinion, is more dangerous than other deviant movements.

10,000

CSO: 4640/319

IMAM'S REPRESENTATIVE IN GILAN ON CAUSES OF RICE SHORTAGE

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 25 Jul 83 p 3

[Text] Rasht - KEYHAN Correspondent - Hojjat ol-Eslam Va ol-Moslemin Ehsan-Bakhsh, the Imam's representative in Gilan, the people's first representative in the Assembly of Experts, and Friday Imam of Rasht, discussed the Imam's message to the Majles and the matter of rice production in an exclusive interview with KEYHAN.

At the outset, he said concerning the Imam's message: I can summarize the Imam's message for you in four points. It began with the expressions of appreciation, thanks, humility, and magnanimity which are always present in the Imam.

Then the Imam talked about the role of the power-brokers, the political elite, and the world-devourers in the molestation and destruction of the revolution. He then gave us a piece of good news, which we regard as an inspiration from God, saying "I have no fear for the revolution on account of its foreign and domestic enemies; the revolution will travel its own path." In continuing his talk, however, the Imam discussed the matter of controversies, saying "If disputations exist among organizations, and especially between clergymen and the Islamic societies, I am afraid of this, and I brood about it; if this conflict is within the clerical community, its effect on society will be greater."

He continued: The clerical community has accepted this, and is keeping its own counsel. If, God forbid, the conflicts between them become excessive, it will shake society. Finally, the Imam addressed his remarks to the Assembly of Experts. He warned us, "Keep God, the Truth, and Reality in mind. The matter of the Assembly of Experts is one of the biggest political/social issues of the revolution. Since it is connected with the responsibility of leadership, be more careful in the selection of personnel. In the selection of an individual, or a leadership council, put friendship aside and choose the person who is worthy to lead and can manage the country."

The Imam's representative in Gilan then said concerning the matter of rice:

As everyone knows, rice has become an issue for the country that in a sense amounts to a new headache for us, at a time when most of our political leaders and officials are preoccupied with the war we are fighting against the criminal American government, and when our government must aim all its attention in that direction. Moreover, the price has also skyrocketed in Gilan, and if it hadn't been suppressed God knows how the rice would have gone up in there and how the price could have been stabilized. If this had happened even the farmers would have felt the effects of the resultant inflation.

Continuing his remarks, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ehsan-Bakhsh added: Those who devised this evil plan wanted to paralyze the agriculture of Iran, and to drive the price of rice up so high that no one would could buy it. Foreign rice would consequently be imported, and people would abandon the consumption of rice. It must be said that the purveyors of this scenario, whoever they were and in whatever guise, wanted to destroy rice cultivation in Gilan. They wanted to draw our farmers back into the city and to put them to work on various pretexts. They did not want them to have that glory that the Imam bestowed upon the farmers. The government, therefore, must decide, as I have done as a religious magistrate, to control and restrict rice and its sale.

He also said concerning his visits with the Imam and the personalities of the nation: During the last few days while I was in Tehran, I had talks with all officials and organizations from the Imam to the Prime Minister, Ayatollah al-'Ozma Montazeri, the President of the Republic, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani. Plans were made to solve the problem in a desirable way, and if the suggestions I advanced concerning the price of rice are approved, the farmers will be much better off.

He added: During these visits the point was also made that inflation must be stopped. As the President of the Republic said: Right now the only thing that bothers me is high prices and unlimited inflation. While I still have the strength, God willing, I will put a stop to this inflation and these high prices. A decision was also made to make more social assistance available to the farmers than in previous years. I was extremely insistent that social assistance must be given to the farmers.

In conclusion, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ehsan-Bakhsh said concerning the base price of rice and steps to be taken in the future concerning that: The base price of rice, which has gone from 32 toman to 28 toman, has done so because in general most of the profiteers bought rice during the several days when it wasn't controlled at

36 tomans. With this measure, they will pay back the profits they have made. Concerning steps to be taken in the future, it must be said that that the government has decided not to take any kind of advice, orders, or threats concerning this. Arrangements have been made in the area to make efforts to ease the situation for agriculture and the consumers with the help of the governor-generals, the farmers, the villagers themselves, the clergy, and the intellectuals.

9310

CSO: 4640/306

SAUDI ARABIA BLASTED FOR 'OVERT FRIENDSHIP WITH U.S.'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Aug 83 p 3

[Text] The Minister of Islamic Guidance and Chief of the Supreme Council on Pilgrimages issued a statement concerning the continuing sabotage and obstructionism being practiced by the Saudi Arabian government in its dealings with Iranian pilgrims to the sacred House of God, as well as the incorrect statements of some Saudi Arabian officials and accusations that have been leveled against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate
Just as the glorious Hajj ceremonies are about to begin, the Government of Saudi Arabia, despite its obligation to Muslims to provide them with facilities for their journey to Mecca and Medina in answer to the call of Almighty God, continues even more vigorously than before its acts of sabotage against the respected pilgrims of Iran. Now that it is faced with a widening wave of protest from the Muslims of the world, it fearfully and hastily tries to justify this unsavory act by spreading lies and leveling false accusations against the Muslim nation of Iran.

It is imperative that the Muslims of the world be informed of the following matters:

1 - The Islamic Republic of Iran officially informed the Saudi Arabian government months ago that there would be about 95,000 Iranians attending the Hajj this year; it asked the Saudi Arabian government to fulfill its obligation and make facilities available for making the necessary preparations.

2 - The government of Saudi Arabia made difficulties from the beginning for the Iranian delegation's visit there to procure housing and provisions. It finally authorized travel for a much smaller delegation than was needed and requested, but it minimized the delegation's efficiency by using security personnel to keep them isolated and creating an atmosphere of fear among the owners of housing in Saudi Arabia.

3 - This obstructionism was officially protested numerous times by the Foreign Ministry in Tehran and Iran's Chargé d'Affaires in Saudi Arabia. Finally, a delegation was even sent to Saudi Arabia, led by the International Affairs Deputy of the Iranian Ministry of Islamic Guidance, in order to explain the Islamic Republic's views and to restate Iran's minimum demands for the procurement of facilities for Iranian pilgrims. Unfortunately, however, they saw that this government is still maintaining its hostile, incorrect positions.

4 - The small Iranian contingency in Saudi Arabia, despite all the problems and obstacles which have been created, has succeeded with great effort in renting one-fifth of the housing needed in Glorious Mecca, and two-fifths of the housing needed in Luminous Medina. Several days ago, however, the surveillance and interference of the Saudi Arabian security officials in the affairs of the Iranian delegation increased, with the result that, on the one hand, the owners of rented housing are being coerced with threats to revoke the leases they have given, and others are also being warned with intimidation and bullying not to sign new leases.

5 - On the other hand, they have pressured Islamic Republic Airlines to reduce the number of days they will fly to Saudi Arabia so that they will not be able to transport all the pilgrims to Saudi Arabia; these schedules, in view of the large number of Iranian pilgrims, had already been planned.

In the view of the Saudi rulers, the great crime of the Muslim people of Iran was striking the greatest blow against the unlawful interests of the world imperialists, led by world-devouring America.

The great crime of the Muslim people of Iran is that in toppling the monarchical regime, which was a lackey of America as well as usurper Israel, they pointed the way to liberation for those Muslim nations who were condemned to the evil authority of those affiliated with the enemies of Islam.

The great crime of the Muslim people of Iran is that they have demanded the destruction of the Zionist regime and the liberation of dear Jerusalem and all of the land of Palestine.

In order to block direct contact between the free Iranian Muslims and other Muslims, the Saudi Arabian government is now not only placing obstacles in the path of Iranian pilgrims, but it is also unfortunately trying to somehow justify this improper behavior from a religious standpoint.

Let's not concern ourselves for the time being with the fact that the government of Saudi Arabia, in view of its commitment to America, the unabashed friendship it has with the sworn enemies of Islam and the Muslim nations, and the fact that its petroleum, economic, military, and propaganda policies are always in the unlawful interest of the imperialists of the West and to the disadvantage of the deprived Muslim nations, governments seeking independence, and the anti-Zionist movements in the worlds of Islam and the West, has no right to express opinions concerning the responsibilities and obligations of Muslims. It is rather these pious and free clergymen of Islam who have the right to express opinions about this. A point that cannot be passed over, however, is that an incomplete explanation of a verse from the Koran, ignoring other verses that were revealed concerning the divine rites of the Hajj, as well as the failure to take into account hundreds of verses and accounts that discuss the obligation of Muslims towards each other and against the enemies of God, Islam, and the Ka'ba, is the greatest sign of a lack of commitment to the word of God, and it will cause the distortion of religious truths and produce deviation in the thoughts of Muslims.

Muslims are asking themselves, why should their Iranian brothers and sisters be subjected to the anger of the Saudi Arabian Government?

Are the conscientious Muslims, following the command of God saying "And God and his Prophet proclaim to the people on the day of the Greater Pilgrimage, that God is free from obligation to the idolaters" (Tubeh Surah, v. 3) among the most dangerous enemies of Islam and Unity, as they proclaim the discharge of their obligations and their weariness, or are those who send their armed agents into the sacred sanctuary of the Grand Mosque violating the sanctity of God?

Is the Muslim cry of "God is Great," which strikes fear into the hearts of the world's infidels and imperialists, contrary to the luminous law of Islam, or is beating and injuring Muslims who are saying "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" at God's command?

Is the security of the two noble sanctuaries in Mecca and Medina destroyed by calling on all Muslims to arise against the enemies of Islam and those who want to see the Ka'ba destroyed, and by the call to resist aggression by America and the Soviet Union and to struggle against the existence of the Zionist regime, or is it destroyed by imposing America's evil authority on the lives and resources of the Muslim people and making efforts to strengthen the underpinnings of the usurper Zionist regime, which also plans to occupy Mecca and Medina?

In an official announcement, the government of Saudi Arabia falsely states that Iranian Muslims carry arms, while such a claim is not true for even one Iranian pilgrim. A reality, however, that the government of Saudi Arabia refuses to explain, is that the Muslim people of Iran are blessed by Islam with a weapon of which governments such as the government of Saudi Arabia are deathly afraid. This is the weapon of faith in God, and the weapon of the will to resist the East and the West, the very weapon whose manifestation is cries of "God is Great."

It must be mentioned that the coolness and intelligence of the respected Iranian officials during last year's Hajj, and their enjoinder of the people to preserve peace and order, had the result that our people even failed to utilize their own right to defend their lives and property against the countless insults and savage attacks of the Saudi officials. Everyone saw that it was these Saudi Arabian police who destroyed the security of Muslims in the sanctuary of God and at the side of the pure grave of God's prophet (peace be upon him). By erecting road blocks, driving vehicles into crowds, continuously blowing ear-splitting sirens and horns, and by dispersing peaceful gatherings of Muslims who had come together to protest the crimes of the usurper regime in Palestine, they took the peace away from the people. They attacked the people with tear gas and clubs, wounding tens of Iranian and non-Iranian men and women, and the scars of wounds still remain on the faces and bodies of some of the injured.

The government of Saudi Arabia says it will not stop even one pilgrim from coming; if that is so, why is it using threats to force the owners of some houses to revoke leases which have been obtained for Iranian pilgrims with difficulty? Why is it insisting that the number of flight days that Islamic Republic Air will use to transport pilgrims from Tehran to Jedda and back, which were planned according to necessity, be reduced? Why, citing opposition from higher authorities, are they denying travel authorization to Saudi Arabia to 60 people for the purpose of procuring provisions, when even the Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister promised to give them decisive help for their journey to Saudi Arabia?

There is no doubt that the government of Saudi Arabia wants to use these methods to deny the possibility of travel to Iranian pilgrims, and the motivation for this improper behavior is not concealed from us.

It is natural that the presence of 100,000 Iranians in the midst of the rest of the Muslims will cause the Muslims of the world to hear the greatness of the Islamic revolution directly from the mouths of the creators of this revolution, and to see first-hand the cohesion and solidarity of the Muslim nation of Iran with a

government that arose out of the will of the nation itself. The vital and lively spirit of the Iranian men and women will be a jaw-shattering answer to the rumors of the Eastern and Western media and their mercenaries and lackeys against the Islamic revolution and the Muslim nation of Iran.

On the other hand, travel by a group of Iranians to Saudi Arabia would itself be the greatest indication of the stability and firmness of the economic foundations of the Islamic Republic, and this is at a time when three years have passed since the regime ruling Iraq savagely attacked the Islamic Republic. Everyone knows that the Iraqi regime depends on support from the East and the West, and is assured of unlimited financial and propaganda support from the region's reactionary governments. The Islamic Republic of Iran, which has nothing to lean on other than God's favor and the faith and will of the Muslim nation, despite all the plots, has been able to draw nearer every moment to the final victory and to put Saddam's crumbling regime and the policies supporting him into an incredibly restricted position. Today, by sending 100,000 pilgrims to Saudi Arabia, it is showing that it is at the pinnacle of its power in every respect.

The government of Saudi Arabia knows that if it does not block the path of the Iranian pilgrims, besides the fact that the presence of 100,000 Muslims of Iran and their cries of "God is Great," "Death to the superpowers," and "Death to Israel" will threaten the security of the arrogant authority of the East and West over the Muslim world, as well as the Zionist regime itself, and it will also make Iran the most heavily represented country of all the Muslim countries attending the Hajj. The government of Saudi Arabia does not in any way want to see this great honor fall to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, however, and all the respected Iranian pilgrims, will use all their resources and abilities to answer the call of their God, in order that they may visit the House of God and the pure grave of the Prophet (Peace be upon him) in the shadow of God's favor with the most perfect splendor that is possible. God willing, they will be victorious over all the anti-Islamic plots.

In conclusion, we cite the word of God, which says "Lo! Those who disbelieve and bar men from the way of Allah and from the Inviolable Place of Worship, which we have appointed for mankind together, the dweller therein and the nomad; whosoever seeketh wrongful partiality therein, him we shall cause to taste a painful doom. (Hajj 25)." Once again we sound the alarm to public opinion in the Muslim world, to all free Muslims, and to governments and individuals in Islamic countries that a dangerous call is taking shape at the hands of the government of Saudi Arabia; everyone must act on his divine responsibilities

concerning that. We proclaim that what has arisen before the free Muslims of Iran is a warning to all Muslims; it tells a story of a secret and savage plot, in the planning of which the filthy fingers of America and usurper Israel cannot be overlooked.

Glory to God's own, to God's Prophet, and the faithful. "There is no victory except from the Almighty Sovereign God. God Most High has spoken the truth [Quoting the Koran]." Mohammad Khatami, Minister of Islamic Guidance and Chief of the Supreme Council on the Hajj and Pilgrimages.

9310

CSO: 4640/315

IRAN

MUSAVI DISCUSSES OLYMPIC GAMES BOYCOTT, PILGRIMAGE, WAR WITH IRAQ

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] The news item below was printed yesterday in ETTELA'AT's second edition. Since some readers read yesterday's first edition and did not see the article on the Prime Minister's press conference after the meeting of the Council of Ministers, we present the piece for our readers again today:

The Islamic Republic of Iran, in view of America's position towards deprived nations, its intervention in Middle Eastern affairs, its protection of the usurper regime in Jerusalem, and especially because of the crimes it is committing in Latin America and other parts of the world, will not participate in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Prime Minister Engineer Mir Hoseyn Musavi, at the end of yesterday's meeting of the Council of Ministers, spoke with reporters concerning the reasons for Iran's boycott of the 1984 Olympics to be held in Los Angeles, the crimes that America is committing in various places in the world, especially El Salvador and other parts of Latin America, and its formation of a rapid deployment force for the purpose of interfering in various parts of the world. He said: In today's (yesterday's) meeting, the Council of Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran decided to boycott the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, and to engage in the production of exposes instead.

He added: Of course this does not mean that our athletes will not participate in competition elsewhere in the world, but we will boycott this event, for the reasons I have given and because of the extensive political implications. Another consideration, of course, is the crimes that America committed in our country and continues to commit, and this was a major factor in our decision.

Obstructionism by the Saudi Regime

In discussing other matters which came up during the meeting, the Prime Minister said: The matter of the Hajj, the difficulties the Saudi regime has created for Iranian pilgrims, and the kind

of action it is taking in order both to avoid being accused by the world and to prevent Iranians from participating in the devotional/political ceremonies of the Hajj, were discussed at the meeting.

He added: On the one hand, the Saudi regime says it will grant visas, and on the other hand it prevents the rental of housing for Iranian pilgrims in Medina and Mecca. It even uses threats and intimidation to coerce landlords into revoking the leases for their housing which they have given to Iranians. These things are all indications of a dirty game which has begun, and our government has the power to expose what is going on in this area, and to show how a regime can in practice threaten an Islamic affair to this extent because of its ties and affiliations with other powers. This matter naturally calls to mind that proposal which has been made so many times, that Mecca and Medina ought not to be managed by a regime like this one; they ought to be supervised by powers affiliated with all Muslim nations.

Continuation of Activities

The Prime Minister was asked what the responsibilities will be for those Iranian pilgrims who are ready to go to the Sacred House of God, up until the time the Hajj rites begin. He said:

The policy of the government of Iran is to inform our great nation of whatever it encounters, and to keep them aware of events.

The Prime Minister added: We are doing everything we can to enable our pilgrims to participate in the Hajj rites. All the necessary efforts are being made, both here and by the delegation that has gone to Saudi Arabia. The Hajj and Pilgrimages Organization is also seeking to make the necessary arrangements.

We have not stopped working in any sense. Work is being continued on matters related to Islamic Republic Airlines. Accordingly, just as our great nation has seen, we are faced with complicated political issues and with obstruction and stone-throwing on the part of the Saudi regime. We are trying make public opinion in our nation aware of events on a daily and weekly basis. Naturally, our nation, with its political growth and awareness and its deep Islamic insight, will find a way to confront this issue.

The Prime Minister added: We stress again that we do not think it is in the interest of Saudi Arabia to continue this policy. This policy will have no result whatsoever except to arouse the aversion of all the world's Muslims towards the Saudi regime, and to further convince the Muslim nations of the world that this regime does not have the power to administer the rites of the Hajj. Obviously, this matter cannot be in the interest of the

nations of the area and in the interest of peace in the area. We advise them to abandon this practice of double-dealing and to adopt a more correct and Islamic practice.

Objectives of Recent Operations

Concerning the objectives of the phase-by-phase operations of the Islamic Republic of Iran's combatants, who have at this stage gone into Iraqi territory in some areas, he said: The objective of these operations at the present time may be said to be the recovery of some of our Islamic country which is in the hands of the Iraqi aggressors. At the same time, it is a new slap in the face for the political and military credibility of Saddam's regime, in view of the propaganda Saddam's regime has spread concerning its power. We are especially aware that this credibility has become a big question in the world. The regimes that are now protecting Saddam are trying to enhance his credibility, so that the development projects, the enormous loans, and other such things, upon which the survival of Saddam's regime depends, will continue to progress, and so that Iraq will be able to obtain credit from the big companies and international conglomerates in order to continue the war and to manage its daily affairs somehow in order not to come up against an explosive situation. Naturally, the recent assaults by the powerful combatants of Islam have smudged his credibility and are putting heavy pressure on Saddam's regime at the international level. They have also put heavy pressure on his army. This has dampened their enthusiasm for their pro-Saddam slogans. The war will continue in its drive to attain the clear rights of our nation, and no form of international pressure can impose peace upon us.

With regard to our own combatants, it is also clear that they are becoming more courageous, seasoned, and experienced every day; we can see how they fight against the most complex weapons and against a well-organized army, and how they deal their blows out against the despicable body of the aggressor Ba'thist army of Iraq. A careful look will show that recent operations have special qualities compared to those of the past; they are like a chain of rippling attacks that have moved a front of penetration onto enemy soil, taking place one after the other. We hope that these tactics will continue in the future.

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CSO: 4640/316

IRAN

BRIEFS

IMPORT OF PAKISTANI BREAD--Lahore, 10 Aug--A representative of the Roti Corporation of Pakistan [RCP] [Roti--vernacular for flat bread] said that Pakistan will export bread to Iran to meet its requirements and talks on the matter are in the final stages. Speaking to a correspondent here today, the RCP managing director, Mr Ghulam Yazdani Khan, said that the RCP plants have a capacity to produce enough bread to meet Iran's requirements. [Excerpt] [GF151420 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 11 Aug 83 p 6]

CSO: 4656/238

DAMAGE TO BASIC INSTITUTIONS SEEN AS MARTIAL LAW'S WORST EFFECT

Karachi JANG in Urdu 15 Jul 83 p 3

[Column by Irshad Ahmad Haqqani: "Six Years of Martial Law"]

[Text] Martial law naturally has inflicted its greatest harm in the political sphere. True, politicians are not respected in our country because of their slipshod work and politics has come to be regarded as dirty work, yet it cannot be denied that politics and politicians are necessary in a modern democratic country. Just as we cannot condemn the medical profession because of the greed of doctors or commerce because of the irregularities of businessmen, so we cannot deride politics because of the immoral actions of some politicians. Just as the public image of every profession depends on the people connected with it, so the image of politics depends on the people active in it.

Is the image of all professional people in our country enviable? When the entire nation suffers from moral ills, how can the politicians be above them? Nobody suggests that doctors and lawyers be eliminated, but proposals are offered for improvements in their work. So it would be advisable to analyze the reasons for the failings of the politicians and to offer remedies. Politics should not be declared a "forbidden fruit." Since the creation of Pakistan is the result of a democratic and political process, there should be political freedom, say some people. There is some weight to this argument. But even if this were not the case, democracy and politics would be inevitable in our country. Political and democratic processes are necessary for the development of political consciousness and solidarity among the masses, for bringing the provinces and various regions closer together, for imparting them a sense of participation in the nation's affairs and creating possibilities for identifying and solving their complaints and problems.

The absence of democratic processes, it is quite possible, might not necessarily show negative results in two or four years. But there are bound to be complications sooner or later. Our bitter experiences in the recent past make the need for political and democratic actions even more compelling. This matter is so clear that no student of past and present Pakistani politics can overlook it. The suspension of democratic and political processes in Pakistan is a great disservice to the nation and no true patriot can refrain from condemning it. Trust in politics and democratic processes is trust in the goodwill of human nature. A human being is righteous and constructive

instinctively. By nature he is inclined toward justice. He does make mistakes but he learns from them.

Justice usually prevails when the issues are deliberated and decided on by the masses in a democratic fashion. We are not unaware of the defects in the democratic process but the innate goodness in human nature can be a self-correcting agent. And the outcome can be worthwhile. Human actions can never be flawless. Human civilization and leadership can never be without flaws but it is necessary to let the people strive toward their betterment in freedom. It has been justly said that democracy is a defective system but it is the best system ever created by mankind.

The greatest harm done by martial law, in our judgment, is the suppression of the democratic process. The people no longer have a sense of participation in the government. This creates many implications, which cannot be alleviated unless martial law is ended and democracy is restored.

One consequence of the present system is the slowness of accountability. The martial law government is not accountable to anyone. There is no legislature, no parliament. The bureaucracy has become all-powerful.

All of the departments are performing their duties as they see it fit and as their special interests dictate.* In the end there is nobody to safeguard the interests of the people. There are more widespread complaints of insensitivity, ineptness and the dishonesty of the administration than ever before. The reason is that the government is at the mercy of the bureaucracy, which has become all-powerful.

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CSO: 4656/225

* George Bernard Shaw said at one point that every profession is a conspiracy against man. All our government and semi-government departments and corporations run for safeguarding the interests of their staff and officials. How many such institutions can the martial law authorities hold accountable even if they want to?

POLITICAL PARTIES DEEMED NECESSARY FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

Call for Ban on Undemocratic Parties

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 11 Jul 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Hold Local Bodies Elections on Party Basis"]

[Excerpts: The thoughts of the political parties regarding the municipal elections are beginning to jell. The majority of the influential parties now seems to be in favor of municipal elections and is inclined to participate in them. Now that wisdom has come to the political parties, the government seems to be losing its mind. The ministers and other notables are calling the municipal elections nonpolitical. The very idea of elections being regarded as nonpolitical and nonpartisan is absurd. The previous municipal elections were held on so-called nonpolitical and nonpartisan bases. What came of them? There is a Persian adage: "To test somebody already tested is absurd."

The government should keep in mind that political organizations do not exist solely in the form of political parties in our country. They also exist in the form of political families. If a Khar, a Jatoi, a Pirzada or a Gardezi is barred from elections because of his affiliation to a party, he simply sends someone from his family who does not have the label of the party to contest the elections. While that person is running for office, all behind-the-scenes maneuvers are conducted by the barred candidate. When the candidate wins the election and holds office, he simply becomes an instrument of the barred candidate and the party, which is banned. This is how banned parties succeed in using the back door in many municipal departments and influencing their operations. It is likely to happen again.

The issue is not how to keep the parties out of elections but to discourage those parties that employ undemocratic methods. Therefore, the thing to do is to impose democratic values and methods on the parties legally. And the parties that do not accept them should not be allowed to contest the elections. Along with it, individuals should not be allowed to contest elections in their own capacity so that non-party, group based family style politics may be discouraged. Politics of this nature nourish feudalism, kills party-based politics and democratic institutions and due to it political environment in general stays unhealthy.

There are political parties whose organization is such that their officers are appointed rather than elected. Their very existence is undemocratic. But it should not be up to the government to decide which of the political parties can contest the elections, since government itself in a sense is a political opponent and it will be difficult, if not well nigh impossible, for it to be fair. Therefore, the task of inculcating democratic principles and registering the parties on that basis should be entrusted to an impartial authority. Such an authority can be constituted of members drawn from the judiciary. Or this job could be given to the Elections Commission, as was done for the proposed elections of 1977.

Flaw of Nonparty Candidates

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 12 Jul 83 p 5

[Editorial: "What After the Commission?"]

[Text] If President Zia wants his political framework to be acceptable to the people and a majority of political parties, he should make sure that the proposed framework is basically and essentially within the reference and limits of the constitution of 1973. That constitution was unanimously approved by all parties and the elected representatives of all federal units. Therefore, no effort should be made to change its basic principles or its core, so that it does not end up looking like a new constitution. Any changes should be limited to such matters as relate to bringing about a balance in the powers of the prime minister and the president. Besides, it would be advisable, in addition to restoring the 1973 constitution, to maintain a status quo of the political parties. In the last few months, there have been rumors that there will be no place for political parties in the proposed Islamic republic. But, mind you, we have reached this point only after centuries of progress. Therefore, it is inconceivable today to have a democratic structure in a country without political parties. And it will not make sense to hold elections without them. Any effort to curb or destroy them will simply encourage dictatorship.

If independents rather than party candidates are encouraged to run, that will simply ensure the success of the rich. The poor and the middle class will not have a chance. They can win only through the power of a political party. Individual members in a legislature, without the mandate of a powerful national party, will simply fail to be an effective voice of the masses and will have no chance before the organized armed forces or the federal bureaucracy.

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ACCOUNTABILITY DEMANDED FOR BANGLADESH TRAGEDY

Karachi AMN in Urdu 3 Jul 83 p 2

[Article by Juma Khan: "Do Those Responsible for the Fall of Dacca Deserve To Hold Government Posts?"]

[Text] Why did East Pakistan break away? Why was Bangladesh formed? And why did the Pakistani Army lay down its arms? To find answers to these questions, the former government appointed the late chief justice, Humoodur Rahman, to head a commission of enquiry. The commission completed its investigation and sent its report to the government. It was decided that the report would be published and its recommendations carried out, but so far the report has not been officially released nor is there any indication that its findings are being put into effect.

Recently, a newspaper published a portion of this report in which the commission recommended that two generals be court-martialed. But instead of being court-martialed or punished, one of the generals was appointed to the post of ambassador. General Rahim's statements after the publication of this report show that he was the general who was appointed ambassador and is now the leader of PIA. He called the report incorrect. Similarly, Gen Rao Farman Ali, who is a federal minister, criticized the report and professed innocence. Meanwhile, demands continue to increase not only for the Humoodur Rahman Commission report to be published but also for its recommendations to be carried out. In this connection, the head of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, Sardar Sherbaz Mazari, has made an important statement to the effect that any general who wishes to prove his innocence should appear before a military court as recommended by the Humoodur Rahman Commission and satisfy it as to his innocence.

The loss of Dacca was the worst tragedy of our national life, and those who were responsible for it should be given exemplary punishment. The crime did not involve the murder of an individual but the division of a country; the country was broken in two and the national army forced to lay down its arms. The man appointed to investigate and reach conclusions was not an ordinary official or magistrate but the chief justice of Pakistan's highest court, the Supreme Court. His report and findings can on no account be ignored.

Individuals who were found responsible for the fall of Dacca and for whom punishment was recommended should be forcibly retired and banned for life from holding any government, quasi-government or private employment. Since they failed utterly to show any extraordinary administrative or military capability and intelligence, their punishment should be no less than permanent disbarment from high office and dismissal from government and quasigovernment service. If this has not been done and these individuals, instead of being punished, are being rewarded with the highest posts, then this should be seen as a new national tragedy. God forbid! Is our country so devoid of unsullied individuals who are more intelligent, more capable and more patriotic than these individuals and who can assume the posts now occupied by those involved in the fall of Dacca?

Certain influential elements have been charging that the division of Pakistan was the result of a deep conspiracy. If there is any truth to this charge, then the question arises as to whether some of the big brains behind this conspiracy are still in power today and whether they are rewarding their comrades for helping them in this conspiracy and carrying out their plans competently. I do not think this is so.

But the question then arises as to why the Humoodur Rahman Commission report is not published. If it is not possible for some reason to make the report public, is it also impossible to carry out the findings and recommendations of the chief justice? If the recommendations of the chief justice are carried out, the interests of many high officials will surely be harmed. But after the loss of Dacca, are these individuals still so powerful that they can prevent the publication of the Humoodur Rhaman Commission report, stop any action on its recommendations and in spite of being in retirement obtain the highest posts in the remaining part of Pakistan and do as they please?

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CSO: 4656/223

BRITAIN URGED TO HELP PAKISTAN REJOIN COMMONWEALTH

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 15 Jul 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Pakistan's Reentry Into the Commonwealth"]

[Text] The reentry of Pakistan into the Commonwealth has been under discussion and study for a long time. Pakistan wants to rejoin; Britain, Australia, Canada and most member countries also support such a move. The only open opposition to Pakistan's reentry comes from Pakistan's neighbor, India, which wants to sign a "treaty of friendship and peace." Opposition from India, especially its prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, is quite understandable since it stems from the grudge and malice she inherited from her late father and which she considers her "religion." India's behavior has made it quite plain that it will continue to oppose Pakistan's reentry into the Commonwealth. Sometimes India raises the issue that Pakistan should clarify why it left the Commonwealth. Now the Indian prime minister has found a new excuse, namely, that after rejoining the Commonwealth, Pakistan would be able to bring up area and bilateral issues that are matters of controversy between Pakistan and India. All these are lame excuses, as the saying goes, malice makes many excuses. There is only one way that Pakistan can honorably rejoin the Commonwealth--as the "mother country," Britain should exert its full and serious efforts and use its influence on behalf of Pakistan's reentry.

After leaving the Commonwealth, Pakistan was able to find a more natural, effective and relevant platform in the Islamic Conference, the united organization of the world Islamic brotherhood; this has been a source of confidence and satisfaction to Pakistan, since the membership in the conference is of no lesser importance than membership in the Commonwealth. The Islamic Conference is more harmonious with the nature and objectives of Pakistan and no country such as India cannot cause a breach in it. With the passage of time, the Islamic Conference will grow stronger and more relevant; and as the Conference gains in unity, breadth, power, magnitude and inspiration, Pakistan's importance will grow accordingly.

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